

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Session No. : 16**

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LWB(WW)001	1002	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	141	Social Welfare
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LWB(WW)005	3027	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	141	Social Welfare
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LWB(WW)008	2404	CHEUNG Kwok-che	141	Social Welfare
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LWB(WW)018	1403	HO Chung-tai, Raymond	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)019	1416	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	141	
LWB(WW)020	2751	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	141	
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LWB(WW)023	1142	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	141	Social Welfare
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LWB(WW)025	0061	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)026	0062	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)027	0063	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)028	0064	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests

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LWB(WW)029	0067	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)030	0068	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)031	0069	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)032	0070	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)033	2653	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)034	2654	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)035	2655	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
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LWB(WW)038	2658	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)039	1583	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)040	1584	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)041	1965	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)042	1968	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)043	1467	LEE Wai-king, Starry	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)044	3003	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)045	0879	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)046	1017	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)047	2555	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)048	2911	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)049	2914	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)050	3102	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)051	3103	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
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LWB(WW)053	3105	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)054	3106	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)055	3107	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)056	3108	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)057	3217	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
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LWB(WW)063	1510	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)064	1809	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Director of Bureau's Office
LWB(WW)065	1810	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)066	1811	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
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LWB(WW)068	2813	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)069	2814	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)070	2815	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)071	2817	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Subvention : Skills Centres
LWB(WW)072	2818	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Subvention : Guardianship Board and Environmental Advisory Service
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LWB(WW)074	2512	WONG Kwok-kin	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)075	2005	WONG Sing-chi	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)076	2006	WONG Sing-chi	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)077	2475	WONG Yuk-man	141	Director of Bureau's Office
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LWB(WW)083	1007	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)084	1008	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)085	1009	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)086	2599	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)087	3023	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)088	3024	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
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LWB(WW)090	3178	CHAN Tanya	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)091	3181	CHAN Tanya	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)092	3182	CHAN Tanya	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)093	3183	CHAN Tanya	170	Services for Elders

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LWB(WW)096	3258	CHAN Tanya	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)100	1347	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)101	0284	CHEUNG Hok-ming	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)102	0286	CHEUNG Hok-ming	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)103	0287	CHEUNG Hok-ming	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)104	0775	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)105	0776	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)106	0777	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)107	0778	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)108	0779	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)109	0780	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)110	0787	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)111	0788	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)112	0789	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)113	0790	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)114	1289	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)115	1290	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)116	1291	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)117	1292	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)118	1293	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)119	1294	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)120	1295	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)121	1296	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)122	2378	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)123	2379	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)124	2380	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)125	2381	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)126	2382	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)127	2383	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)128	2384	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security

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LWB(WW)131	2388	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)132	2389	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)133	2391	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)134	2392	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)135	2393	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)136	2394	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)137	2395	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)138	2396	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)139	2397	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)140	2399	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)141	2400	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
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LWB(WW)143	2402	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)144	2403	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)145	2405	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)146	2407	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)147	2408	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)148	2409	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)149	2410	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)150	2411	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)151	2855	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)152	2856	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)153	2857	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)154	2858	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)155	2859	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)156	2860	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)157	2861	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare

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LWB(WW)161	2865	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)162	2866	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)163	2867	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
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LWB(WW)165	2869	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
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LWB(WW)168	2872	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)169	2873	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)170	2874	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)171	2875	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)172	2876	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)173	2877	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)174	2882	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)175	2883	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)176	2884	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)177	2890	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)178	3057	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)179	3058	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)180	3059	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)181	3135	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)182	3136	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)183	3137	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)184	3138	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)185	3139	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)186	3140	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
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LWB(WW)190	3144	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)191	3145	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)192	3146	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)193	3147	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)194	3148	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)195	3149	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)196	3185	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)197	3186	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)198	3187	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)199	3188	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)200	3189	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)201	3190	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)202	3192	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)203	3198	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)204	3199	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)205	3200	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)206	3201	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)207	3202	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)208	3203	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)209	3204	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)210	3228	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)211	3229	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)212	3230	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)213	3231	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)214	3232	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)215	3233	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)216	3234	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security

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LWB(WW)219	3238	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)220	3239	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)221	3240	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)222	3241	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)223	3242	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)224	3243	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)225	3244	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)226	3247	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)227	3248	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)228	3249	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)229	3250	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)230	3306	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)236	2704	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)237	0142	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)238	0143	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)239	0144	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)240	0145	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)241	0146	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)242	0149	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)243	0150	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)244	0151	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)245	0156	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)246	0161	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)247	0162	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)248	0163	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)249	1203	HO Chun-yan, Albert	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)250	1170	HO Chung-tai, Raymond	170	Family and Child Welfare and Social Security
LWB(WW)251	2098	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)252	2099	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	170	Services for Elders

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LWB(WW)254	0250	IP Wai-ming	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)255	0256	IP Wai-ming	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)256	0257	IP Wai-ming	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)257	0261	IP Wai-ming	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)258	0262	IP Wai-ming	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)259	1986	LAU Sau-shing, Patrick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)260	1767	LEE Cheuk-yan	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)261	1768	LEE Cheuk-yan	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)262	1572	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)263	1585	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)264	1586	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)265	1587	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)266	1588	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)267	1589	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)268	1963	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)269	1964	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)270	1966	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)271	1967	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)272	1969	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)273	1970	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)274	1971	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)275	1972	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)276	2797	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)277	2798	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)278	2808	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)279	2809	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)280	2810	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)281	2811	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Young People
LWB(WW)282	1474	LEE Wai-king, Starry	170	Young People
LWB(WW)283	1475	LEE Wai-king, Starry	170	Young People

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LWB(WW)284	2262	LEE Wai-king, Starry	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)285	2264	LEE Wai-king, Starry	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)286	2272	LEE Wai-king, Starry	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)287	2273	LEE Wai-king, Starry	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)288	2326	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)289	2327	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)290	2328	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)291	2329	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)292	2330	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)293	2577	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)294	2578	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)295	2579	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)296	2994	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)297	2995	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)298	0877	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)299	1012	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)300	1013	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)301	1014	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)302	1015	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)303	1016	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)304	1018	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)305	1019	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)306	1020	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)307	1021	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)308	1022	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)309	1023	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)310	1024	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)311	1025	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)312	1026	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)313	1027	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)314	1028	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders

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LWB(WW)315	1029	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)316	1030	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)317	1031	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)318	1032	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)319	1033	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)320	1034	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)321	1035	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)322	1036	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)323	1077	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)324	1078	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)325	1079	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)326	1080	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)327	1081	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)328	1082	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)329	1084	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)330	1089	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)331	1090	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)332	1091	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)333	1092	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)334	1093	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)335	1336	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)336	1337	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)337	1338	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)338	1339	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)339	1340	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)340	1341	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)341	1345	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)342	2192	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)343	2892	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)344	2893	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)345	2894	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)346	2895	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)347	2896	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)348	2897	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)349	2898	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)350	2899	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)351	2900	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)352	2901	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)353	2902	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)354	2903	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)355	2904	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)356	2905	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)357	2908	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security

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LWB(WW)359	2915	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)360	2916	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)361	2917	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)362	2918	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)363	2919	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)364	2920	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)365	2921	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)366	2922	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)367	2923	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)368	2924	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)369	2925	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)370	2926	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)371	2927	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Young People
LWB(WW)372	2928	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Young People
LWB(WW)373	2929	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)374	2930	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)375	2931	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)376	2932	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)377	2933	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)378	3050	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)379	3051	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)380	3052	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)381	3053	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)382	3054	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)383	3100	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)384	3101	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)385	3109	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Young People
LWB(WW)386	3110	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Young People
LWB(WW)387	3111	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)388	3112	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)389	3113	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)390	3114	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)391	3205	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)392	3206	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)393	3207	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)394	3208	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)395	3209	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)396	3210	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)397	3211	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)398	3212	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)399	3213	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)400	3214	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)401	3215	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)402	3216	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)403	3218	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)404	3219	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)405	3220	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)406	3221	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)407	3222	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)408	3223	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)409	3224	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)410	3309	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)411	3310	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)412	3311	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)413	3312	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)414	3313	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)470	0107	LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)471	0108	LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)472	0595	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)473	0597	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)474	0603	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)475	0604	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)476	0605	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)477	0606	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)478	0626	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)479	0627	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)480	0764	LI Fung-ying	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)481	0765	LI Fung-ying	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)482	0766	LI Fung-ying	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)483	0768	LI Fung-ying	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)484	0770	LI Fung-ying	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)485	0347	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)486	0351	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)487	0352	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)488	0353	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)489	0354	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)490	0516	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)491	0392	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	170	All
LWB(WW)492	0406	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)493	0898	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)494	0899	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)495	0900	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)496	0451	TAM Wai-ho, Samson	170	Young People
LWB(WW)497	0452	TAM Wai-ho, Samson	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

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LWB(WW)499	0454	TAM Wai-ho, Samson	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)500	0721	TAM Wai-ho, Samson	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)501	1530	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)502	1531	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)503	1532	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)504	1533	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)505	1534	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)506	1535	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)507	1536	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)508	1537	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)509	1538	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)510	1539	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)511	1540	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)512	1541	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)513	1542	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)514	1543	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)515	1544	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)516	1545	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)517	1546	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)518	1547	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)519	1548	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)520	1549	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)521	1550	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)522	1551	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)523	1552	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)524	1553	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)525	1554	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)526	1555	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)527	1504	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)528	1505	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)529	1506	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)530	1507	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)531	1508	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)532	1509	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)533	1511	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Young People
LWB(WW)534	0360	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)535	0361	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)536	0364	WONG Kwok-hing	170	000 Operational expenses
LWB(WW)537	0479	WONG Kwok-hing	170	All

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LWB(WW)538	0504	WONG Kwok-hing	170	All
LWB(WW)539	2950	WONG Kwok-hing	170	All
LWB(WW)540	0060	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)541	0122	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)542	0123	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)543	0225	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)544	0226	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)545	0327	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)546	0996	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)547	0997	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)548	0998	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)549	0999	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)550	1000	WONG Sing-chi	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)551	1001	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)552	1222	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)553	1779	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)554	1780	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)555	1781	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)556	2002	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)557	2003	WONG Sing-chi	170	Young People
LWB(WW)558	2004	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)559	2007	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)560	2008	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)561	2009	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)562	2010	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)563	2539	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)564	2480	WONG Yuk-man	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)565	2481	WONG Yuk-man	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)566	0423	CHEUNG Hok-ming	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)567	3305	CHEUNG Kwok-che	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)569	2234	KAM Nai-wai	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)570	1342	LEUNG Kwok-hung	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)572	0598	LEUNG Yiu-chung	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)573	1520	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)574	1083	LEUNG Kwok-hung		Lotteries Fund
LWB(WW)575	2316	WONG Yuk-man		Lotteries Fund

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Concerning the feasibility study of universal retirement protection in Hong Kong being conducted by the Central Policy Unit, when will the study be completed? According to last year's reply by the Administration, the findings of the study will only serve as internal reference for the Government. As the findings of the study have certain reference value, will the Administration make them available for public reference? When will the Administration report its conclusion to the Legislative Council in relation to the implementation of the universal retirement protection?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply :

As the Chief Executive said in his 2011-12 Policy Address, Hong Kong has implemented the statutory minimum wage, and is studying the voluntary Health Protection Scheme and ways to enhance the Mandatory Provident Fund system. It is impractical to introduce fundamental changes to the existing retirement protection system and adopt a resource reallocation approach to deal with retirement protection. It is also not easy for the community to reach a consensus in this respect. It is more constructive, more pragmatic and easier to achieve results by enhancing, consolidating and strengthening the existing retirement protection system with a view to maximising the complementary effect.

In this connection, the Central Policy Unit (CPU) is conducting a territory-wide household survey on retirement planning and the financial situation of the elderly. The aim is to understand the latest economic situation of the elderly in Hong Kong and their retirement plans. The survey, which commenced in February 2012, will cover 10 000 households. Upon completion of all household visits and data collection, the initial results of the survey are expected to be available by end-2012 at the earliest for detailed analysis. CPU will complete its studies on the retirement protection system in Hong Kong having regard to the findings of the survey. The Administration will then consider the way forward.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The revised estimate of financial provision in 2011-12 represents a decrease of about \$29.2 million (-5.0%) against the original estimate. What projects or initiatives have been reduced causing such revision? What are the reasons for the reduction?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply :

The breakdown of the \$29.2 million reduction in revised estimate is as follows:

<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Amount</u> (\$ million)
(a) Less than required expenditure for the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients and other on-going initiatives/programmes	12.3
(b) Lower than expected expenditure for the financial assistance for family members of those who sacrifice their lives to save others	7.0
(c) Net savings in departmental expenses, personal emoluments, recurrent subventions and capital account	5.5
(d) Net reduction in cash flow requirements for non-recurrent items	4.4
Total :	<hr/> 29.2

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the financial provision for Programme (2) Social Welfare, the revised estimate for 2011-12 represents a decrease of about \$32.6 million against the original estimate. What projects or initiatives have been reduced causing such revision? What are the reasons for the reduction?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply :

The revised estimate for Programme (2) Social Welfare is \$32.6 million less than the original estimate. The reasons for the reduction are as follows:

<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Amount</u> (\$ million)
(a) Less than required expenditure for the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients and other on-going initiatives/programmes	14.3
(b) Net savings in departmental expenses and personal emoluments	9.2
(c) Lower than expected expenditure for the financial assistance for family members of those who sacrifice their lives to save others	7.0
(d) Net reduction in cash flow requirements for non-recurrent items	2.1
Total :	<hr/> 32.6

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Labour
and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The increase of about \$100 million in the estimated financial provision for 2012-13 under this Programme is mainly due to additional provision for implementing the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients on a territory-wide basis. Please list out the respective uses of this financial provision, the administrative expenditure to be involved and the implementation timetable.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply :

The Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients (the Programme) has become a regular and territory-wide programme since the first quarter of 2012.

The estimated full-year expenditure for the Programme in 2012-13 is about \$152.5 million. The breakdown by expenditure item is as follows:

Item	Estimated full-year expenditure (\$ million)
Discharge planning services	81.0
Home support services	71.5
Total	152.5

Funding for the Programme is allocated to the Hospital Authority (HA) and 15 participating hospitals in its seven clusters. The estimated funding allocation in 2012-13 is as follows:

HA cluster	Funding allocation (\$ million)
Hong Kong East	18.6
Hong Kong West	11.8
Kowloon Central	15.6
Kowloon East	23.3
Kowloon West	40.0
New Territories East	23.3
New Territories West	18.0
HA Headquarters	1.9
Total	152.5

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG

	Permanent Secretary
Post Title	for Labour and Welfare

Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Since the implementation of the Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance (DVCRO) in 2010, what is the Government's estimated annual expenditure for monitoring the implementation of the Ordinance and what is the final actual expenditure involved? How much funding has been earmarked for conducting reviews on the areas requiring improvement identified from monitoring the implementation of the Ordinance?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply :

The Administration has been closely monitoring the implementation of DVCRO since its implementation in 2010. In particular, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and the Judiciary have been monitoring the number and nature of injunction orders issued under DVCRO. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has also been overseeing the operation of the Anti-Violence Programme, which is provided for under DVCRO.

The resources required for the above are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB, the Judiciary and SWD and cannot be separately identified.

Signature

Name in block letters

PAUL TANG

Post Title

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

Date

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

How much resources will be required for the Bureau to formulate the implementation details of the public transport concession scheme for the elderly and eligible persons with disabilities in 2012-13? What is the progress of the work? When will the scheme be implemented?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with the preparatory work for the public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme). The negotiation with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements of the Scheme is in full swing. We have also started the preparatory work on amending the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. The estimated expenditure can only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised. Our aim is to finalise all arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the Scheme as soon as possible in the second half of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

According to the 2011-12 Policy Address, the Government would provide eligible people with disabilities aged 12 to 64 and elderly people aged 65 or above with travel concessions at a concessionary fare of \$2 a trip. In the 2012-13 Budget, why did the Government not mention at all that additional resources would be provided for the concessions? Please advise on the details of the relevant policy.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

In 2011-12 Policy Address, the Chief Executive proposed a public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme) to enable all elderly people aged 65 or above and eligible persons with disabilities to travel on the general Mass Transit Railway lines, franchised buses and ferries anytime at a concessionary fare of \$2 a trip. The Scheme aims to encourage the elderly and eligible persons with disabilities to participate in more community activities, thereby enriching social capital and developing a spirit of care and inclusiveness. The basic principle of the Scheme is that while the public operators concerned will be requested to continue to absorb the cost of the existing concessions that they voluntarily offer to the elderly and persons with disabilities, the Government will provide additional resources for offering a concessionary fare of \$2 per trip. The Administration will periodically reimburse the public transport operators concerned the revenue forgone arising from the implementation of Scheme on an accountable basis.

The Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with the preparatory work for the Scheme. The negotiation with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements of the Scheme is in full swing. We have also started the preparatory work on amending the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. The estimated expenditure can only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised.

Our aim is to finalise all the arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the Scheme as soon as possible in the second half of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Government will carry out retrofitting works to upgrade barrier-free features in existing government buildings and facilities. Given that government properties only account for a small number of the tens of thousands of buildings in Hong Kong, how will the Government address the accessibility problem of private properties? Will resources be allocated to promote the provision of barrier-free facilities in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the planned provision and the strategic approach to be adopted?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

The Government has put in place legislation governing the provision of barrier-free access in private building, including the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (DDO) (Cap. 487) and the Buildings Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 123). Under the DDO, which applies to existing and new private buildings, it is unlawful to discriminate against persons with disabilities in relation to the provision of means of access to any premises that the public is entitled to enter or use. The Equal Opportunities Commission, being the statutory body to enforce DDO, will follow up on complaints regarding provision of reasonable barrier-free access for persons with disabilities in all premises, including private properties.

Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R) 72 under the BO prescribe the design requirements on the provision of barrier-free access and facilities for persons with disabilities to ensure that reasonable barrier-free access and facilities are provided in premises to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. To supplement the B(P)R 72, a Design Manual (DM) was issued by the Buildings Department to provide guidelines on barrier-free access and facilities. All new buildings as well as alterations and additions to existing buildings will have to comply with the latest barrier-free design standards as set out in the current version of B(P)R and DM.

There are also various funds subsidising eligible private property owners to upgrade barrier-free access of their premises. Starting from 1 April 2011, the Hong Kong Housing Society and Urban Renewal Authority have consolidated their five schemes on building maintenance and jointly rolled out a new Integrated Building Maintenance Assistance Scheme (IBMAS). IBMAS has explicitly included the provision, improvement and maintenance of barrier-free access in the scope of assistance for works in common areas. The Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme and the Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners funded by the Government also accept loan or grant applications for works relating to maintenance and improvement of barrier-free access and facilities. Also, the Operation Building Bright covers improvement and maintenance works in respect of barrier-free access facilities at the common areas of the target buildings under the scheme.

Furthermore, the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee has, since 2003, adopted “Working towards an inclusive and barrier-free society for persons with disabilities” as one of the main themes for its annual public education programmes. Through the publicity effort, we aim to promote to the public, including private property owners, the importance of “barrier-free environment” for persons with disabilities and other persons in need, thereby encouraging them to provide and enhance barrier-free access in their premises.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

With respect to the studies conducted for its policy areas, will the Administration inform this Committee of:

- (1) the studies conducted, the expenditure incurred for each study and the organisation(s) responsible for the studies in the past year, and the studies to be conducted in the coming two years and the estimated expenditure of each study; and
- (2) the latest progress of the study proposed to be conducted earlier on the retirement protection system, and the anticipated timeframe for making the preliminary conclusions, completing the study and publishing the final findings of the study.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) The studies conducted under the Labour and Welfare Bureau and the expenditure incurred for each study in the past year (i.e. 2011-12) were as follows –

Scope of Study	Commencement and Completion Date of Study	Name of Consultant	Expenditure in 2011-12 (\$'000)
The Elderly Commission's Consultancy Study on Community Care Services for the Elderly	Commenced in 2010 and completed in June 2011	Department of Social Work & Social Administration, The University of Hong Kong	978
Consultancy Study on the Child Development Fund Pioneer Projects	Commenced in 2008 and expected to be completed in mid-2012	Department of Applied Social Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	700

Scope of Study	Commencement and Completion Date of Study	Name of Consultant	Expenditure in 2011-12 (\$'000)
Evaluation of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) (Phase 2)	Commenced in 2010 and expected to be completed in 2012	The City University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University	761

The studies to be conducted under LWB in the coming two years from 2012-13 to 2013-14 and the financial provision for each study during the period are as follows –

Scope of Study	Commencement and Completion Date of Study	Financial provision (\$'000)
Consultancy Study on the Child Development Fund Pioneer Projects	Commenced in 2008 and expected to be completed in mid-2012	1,225
Evaluation of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) (Phase 2)	Commenced in 2010 and expected to be completed in 2012	85

- (2) The Administration is conducting a territory-wide household survey on retirement planning and the financial situation of the elderly. This comes under the Central Policy Unit (CPU) and not under the scope of Head 141 (Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau). The aim of the survey is to understand the latest economic situation of the elderly in Hong Kong and their retirement plans.

The survey, which commenced in February 2012, will cover 10 000 households. Upon completion of all household visits and data collection work, initial results of the survey are expected to be available by end-2012 at the earliest for detailed analysis. CPU will complete its studies on the retirement protection system in Hong Kong having regard to the findings of the above survey. The Administration will then consider the way forward.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Brief Description of the objectives of the policies and programmes that the Bureau will “provide a social safety net of last resort to ensure that assistance is available to the financially vulnerable.” Would the Administration inform this Committee whether it will review the threshold of the existing social safety net and consider conducting a comprehensive and thorough review of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, including the review of the expenditure weights, proportions and component items of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices, with a view to ensuring that the scheme can meet the basic needs of recipient families and children? If yes, what is the timetable? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme is a safety net of last resort provided by the Government for those who cannot support themselves financially, and is designed to help them meet their basic needs. The CSSA Scheme addresses the special needs of children in various ways. For instance, the standard rates for children are higher than those for able-bodied adults, and there are special grants to support children’s studies (e.g. grants for covering school fees, travelling expenses to/from school, school-related expenses, and meal allowance, etc.) as well as further assistance on a discretionary basis (e.g. grant of up to \$500 for buying spectacles).

The CSSA Scheme is a non-contributory social security scheme, and CSSA expenditure is fully borne by taxpayers. We must act with prudence and caution in considering any changes to the Scheme and ensure the proper use of public funds and sustainability of the CSSA system.

In accordance with the established mechanism, the Government adjusts CSSA standard payment rates (including the CSSA standard rates, supplements and monthly meal allowance under the special grants category) on an annual basis taking into account the movements of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices (SSAIP). Furthermore,

the Social Welfare Department (SWD) updates the weighting system of the SSAIP every five years with reference to the Household Expenditure Survey on CSSA Households so that the index can more accurately reflect the latest expenditure pattern of CSSA households. The weighting system truthfully presents CSSA recipients' expenditures on individual categories of goods and services as a proportion of their total expenditures. Applying these weights in the calculation of SSAIP can reflect more accurately the impact of price changes on CSSA recipients. In the latest updating exercise, 2009/10 has been adopted as the new base year to capture the latest expenditure pattern of CSSA recipients.

SWD raised the standard payment rates under the CSSA Scheme by 5.2% with effect from 1 February 2012 in accordance with the above well-established mechanism. Following the adjustment, the average monthly CSSA payment to a four-member CSSA family without any income is \$11,242. We will continue to monitor the movements of the SSAIP to ensure that the purchasing power of CSSA payments is maintained.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in paragraph 180 of the Budget Speech that “Last year’s Policy Address announced the provision of public transport concessions for the elderly and eligible people with disabilities to travel on the general MTR lines, franchised buses and ferries at a concessionary fare of \$2 a trip. The Government is discussing the details of and specific arrangements for the concession scheme with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited, with a view to launching the concession scheme in 2012-13.” Will the Administration inform this Committee of: (a) the expenditure of the above transport concessions and the ratio of the related administration costs; (b) the latest details of the scheme formulated by the Administration and the types of public transport covered; and (c) the latest anticipated time-frame for launching the scheme?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (a) The Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with the preparatory work for the public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme). The negotiation with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements of the Scheme is in full swing. The estimated expenditure can only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised.
- (b) Under the Scheme, elderly people aged 65 or above and eligible persons with disabilities (i.e. recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance who are aged between 12 and 64 with 100% disability as well as recipients of Disability Allowance in the same age group) will be able to travel on the general Mass Transit Railway lines, franchised buses and ferries anytime at a concessionary fare of \$2 a trip.

- (c) Our aim is to finalise all arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the Scheme as soon as possible in the second half of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

As stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention, the Bureau will “continue to oversee the implementation of the Child Development Fund projects, and consider the long-term development of the Fund”. In this regard, will the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the latest situation on the implementation of the projects;
- (b) the number of children participated in the projects since their introduction and the expenditure involved;
- (c) whether the Administration has conducted any assessments and analyses on the effectiveness of the projects;
- (d) the criteria the Administration will use in assessing the future long-term development of the Fund; and
- (e) the results of the initial assessment conducted by the Administration on the long-term operation of the Funds or its sustainability through other means.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (a) Since the establishment of the Child Development Fund (CDF) in December 2008, 40 projects have been rolled out in three batches. All these projects are in good progress.

- (b) More than 4 400 children have been recruited to the projects. The cumulative expenditure of the CDF up to 2011-12 is \$44.912 million, and the provision for 2012-13 is \$34.802 million. Expenditures include the cost of training programmes for the participating children and their mentors and parents, special financial incentive of \$3,000 for each child who has completed his savings programme, administrative cost for the non-governmental organisations which operate the projects, and the consultancy fee for a longitudinal study to evaluate the effectiveness of the first batch pioneer projects.
- (c), (d) and (e) We have commissioned a longitudinal study to evaluate the effectiveness of the first batch pioneer projects. The study is on-going and is expected to be completed by mid-2012. Taking into account the results and recommendations of the study and having regard to the practical experience in implementing the projects, we will consider the long-term model of CDF for promoting child development in Hong Kong.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

As mentioned in paragraph 89 of the Budget Speech, “the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund was set up in 2002 to promote social capital development through encouraging mutual support in the neighbourhood, community participation and cross-sectoral partnerships. Since its establishment, the Fund has subsidised 238 projects rolled out by more than 130 organisations involving over 560 000 participants. There have been notable achievements in capacity building, enhancement of interpersonal relationship and development of community networks. I propose to inject an additional \$200 million into the Fund to ensure that it can continue to perform its social function in furthering social capital development at the district level.” Will the Administration inform this Committee of the following: (a) what is the latest situation regarding the utilisation of the Fund; (b) will the scope of and the projects subsidised by the Fund be broadened and expanded with the injection; (c) will the application procedures and conditions of the Fund be improved as they have been considered by the general public as complex and harsh; (d) what is the expenditure and manpower arrangement of the Secretariat of the Fund over the past year; and (e) will the Administration provide additional manpower and resources to cope with the new jobs which might be brought by the injection?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (a) By mid-February 2012, the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (the Fund) had allocated about \$240 million to support 238 projects.
- (b) The Fund aims to build up social capital in Hong Kong with clear objectives and positioning and does not overlap with other existing funds. When assessing applications, the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund Committee will accord priority to the effectiveness of the projects in terms of promotion of cross-sectoral collaboration and sustainable development of social capital. One-off activities and projects lacking long-lasting impact would not be supported.

Since 2010, the Fund has been stepping up efforts in promoting social capital and engaging cross-sectoral partners, including developing various collaboration models such as “medical-welfare-community” model and “family-community-school” model. With the injection, the Fund will continue to actively encourage more applications from eligible organisations with a view to deriving more diverse collaboration models and intensifying the impact of social capital in Hong Kong.

- (c) To enable a better understanding of the Fund’s application requirements, the Fund’s Secretariat (the Secretariat) conducts regular briefing sessions, invites grantees and prospective applicants to share their experience on the implementation of successful projects and desirable modes of operation, and provides individual consultation for applicants before and throughout the implementation of their projects. In addition, the Secretariat reviews from time to time whether there is scope to streamline administrative procedures. In end-2009, the Secretariat revised the application form to provide a clearer framework for submission of funding proposals, while a set of clearer and more concrete assessment criteria has also been developed in early 2010 to facilitate applicants’ better understanding of the requirements.
- (d) The Secretariat comprises 13 non-civil service contract staff and the expenditure for 2011-12 (by end-January 2012) is around \$6.36 million.
- (e) When the Fund was established in 2002, the relevant Finance Committee submission indicated that the then Health and Welfare Bureau (the Labour and Welfare Bureau since July 2007) would provide secretariat service for the Fund. Having regard to the increasing number of projects and the development of the Fund, the Administration had allocated additional resources over the past few years to strengthen the manpower of the Secretariat. The strength of the Secretariat has increased from five at the inception of the Fund in 2002 to 13 at present. The Administration will continue to closely keep in view the manpower situation and requirements of the Secretariat.

Signature	PAUL TANG
Name in block letters	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Post Title	5.3.2012
Date	

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Bureau will “continue to oversee the implementation of the retrofitting programme to upgrade barrier-free facilities in government and Housing Authority premises”. Will the Administration inform this Committee of (a) the latest progress of the above retrofitting programme; (b) the latest estimated cost of the entire retrofitting programme to upgrade barrier-free facilities as well as the projects completed and their expenditures; (c) the timetable for the completion of the retrofitting programme according to the latest estimation of the Administration; and (d) whether it is possible to expedite the retrofitting of some of the facilities frequently used by the persons with disabilities.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (a) The retrofitting programme covers about 3 700 government premises and facilities, amongst which nearly 90% will be retrofitted by 30 June 2012 (Class A) and the remaining by 30 June 2014 (Class B). As at 31 December 2011, among all Class A items, we had completed site survey at 3 235 premises/facilities (100%) and completed both site survey and feasibility study at 3 208 premises/facilities (99%), while works at 1 434 premises/facilities (44%) had commenced. For Class B items, we had completed site survey at 183 premises/facilities (47%) and completed both site survey and feasibility study at 126 premises/facilities (33%).

For the retrofitting programme devised by the Housing Authority (HA) to improve accessibility of 235 premises/facilities (covering a total of 364 works items) under its management (which covers public housing estates, commercial centres, carparks and factory buildings, etc.), most of the improvement works will be implemented by 30 June 2012. To strike a balance between the progress of improvement works and service interruption and nuisances to tenants, HA will schedule some of the improvement works for completion by 30 June 2014. To tie in with HA’s lift modernisation

programme, a small proportion of the improvement works will be completed by 2016-17. In brief, site preparation for all premises/facilities have been completed, while works have commenced at 185 premises/facilities.

- (b) & (c) The estimated total cost of the entire retrofitting programme for upgrading the existing government and HA premises and facilities is about \$1,282 million, of which about \$133 million was spent as at the end of 2011. The retrofitting programme is in full swing and improvement works are being carried out in various venues in parallel. The target completion dates as set out in part (a) above remain valid.
- (d) In drawing up the retrofitting programme, relevant departments have already made assessments on premises/facilities under their management which have a frequent public interface with regard to a number of factors including patronage, operational requirements, technical feasibility and time required for the retrofitting works, etc. Save for some which are categorised under Class B having regard to technical constraints and operational need, venues which have a frequent public interface have already been categorised under Class A as far as practicable for completion by end-June 2012.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding women's issues, will the Administration advise this Committee :

- (a) what policies have incorporated women's needs and perspectives into the process of policy making in the past year? Please state precisely. In the coming two years, what policies are expected to go through the above process before their implementation? And
- (b) on the specific work undertaken by the Administration to enable women to participate in the community in the past year, what indicator does the Government have to assess the effectiveness of the work mentioned above and to gauge women's level of participation in the community; what is the women's participation rate in advisory and statutory bodies in the past two years; whether the Government has any plans to enhance women's participation rate in the bodies mentioned above; and whether a target participation rate has been set? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (a) With the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), the Administration has been implementing gender mainstreaming since 2002. WoC developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officers in incorporating gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes in a systematic manner, so that women and men can have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. Taking into account comments received from stakeholders as well as the practical experience gained in applying the Checklist over the years, WoC revised and enhanced the Checklist in late 2009.

The Administration has applied the Checklist to over 40 specific policy or programme areas. These include the provision of public toilets, promotion of

breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, the 2011 Village Representative Election, and development of gender-specific risks and needs programme for women offenders, etc. In 2011-12, the Checklist was applied to the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, 2011 Population Census, Travel Characteristic Survey 2011, and enhanced support services for ethnic minorities and new arrivals.

In addition to the application of the Checklist, bureaux and departments have also applied the concept of gender mainstreaming to their daily work, including the provision of first aid services to the public, vocational training for prisoners, and the compilation of sex-disaggregated statistics, etc. In the coming years, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) will continue to promote the Checklist and the concept of gender mainstreaming to bureaux and departments.

- (b) Empowering women and enabling them to participate more fully in community is an important work of LWB and WoC. To this end, we have assisted WoC in implementing the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP) since 2004. CBMP is a flexible learning programme tailored to the needs and interests of women. It is delivered through radio broadcasting and courses offered face-to-face and on the internet, supplemented by optional learning activities. The courses provided include building harmonious families, parenting, family health, women leadership, management of personal finance and other practical issues in daily life.

Since its launch, CBMP has encouraged women of different backgrounds and education levels to pursue life-long learning and self-development. Up to November 2011, the cumulative number of enrolment for CBMP exceeded 53 000, not to mention the large network of audience reached through the radio programmes. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by the Open University of Hong Kong in 2011, it was estimated that about 1.4 million people had listened to the CBMP radio programmes so far. Feedback from the students indicated that they benefited from CBMP in terms of increased interests in learning, enhanced confidence and knowledge in resolving problems in daily life, and sharpened communication skills which help improve their interpersonal relationships in the family and employment contexts.

LWB has been working closely with WoC and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the subject policy bureau for matters relating to advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs), to further promote women's participation in ASBs. A proactive approach has been taken to achieve the target, including –

- (i) requiring all submissions making recommendations for appointments to ASBs to include a paragraph on gender consideration;
- (ii) encouraging bureaux and departments to reach out, identify and nurture women who are able and willing to contribute to the work of ASBs; and
- (iii) increasing the number of female candidates in the Central Personality Index maintained by HAB.

These measures will continue in 2012-13. The Administration will also keep monitoring the situation and reminding bureaux and departments of the importance of further enhancing women's participation in ASBs under their respective purview.

Taking into account the advice of WoC, HAB set a gender benchmark of 25% in 2004 as an initial working target for appointment to ASBs. To further encourage women's participation in ASBs, and also on the advice of WoC, the gender benchmark was raised from 25% to 30% with effect from June 2010. In July 2010, WoC issued letters to women's associations and professional organisations inviting their female members to provide their curricula vitae for inclusion in the Central Personality Index with a view to enhancing women's participation in ASBs. As at the end of 2011, 31% of the appointed members were female. In the coming year, the Administration will continue to work with WoC to keep track of the progress in promoting women's participation in ASBs, expand the pool of women leaders available for appointments through initiatives to empower women, and encourage more women from professional bodies, women's groups, non-governmental organisations, etc. to participate in ASBs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

On gender mainstreaming, please advise this Committee of the following :

- (a) Under which policy areas will Gender Mainstreaming Checklist and gender mainstreaming concept be implemented next year? Please give a list of these policy areas. Is there any example to illustrate the adoption of gender mainstreaming concept in policy formulation in 2011-12?
- (b) How many civil servants received gender-related training last year? Which bureaux and departments do they work under? What is the estimated expenditure for such training and the number of civil servants to be covered by the training programme in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

With the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), the Administration has been implementing gender mainstreaming since 2002. WoC developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officers in incorporating gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes in a systematic manner, so that women and men can have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. Taking into account comments received from stakeholders as well as the practical experience gained in applying the Checklist over the years, WoC revised and enhanced the Checklist in late 2009.

The Administration has applied the Checklist to over 40 specific policy or programme areas. These include the provision of public toilets, promotion of breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, the 2011 Village Representative Election, and development of gender-specific risks and needs programme for women offenders, etc. In 2011-12, the Checklist was applied to the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy

Scheme, 2011 Population Census, Travel Characteristic Survey 2011, and enhanced support services for ethnic minorities and new arrivals.

In addition to the application of the Checklist, bureaux and departments have also applied the concept of gender mainstreaming to their daily work, including the provision of first aid services to the public, vocational training for prisoners, and the compilation of sex-disaggregated statistics, etc. In the coming years, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) will continue to promote the Checklist and the concept of gender mainstreaming to bureaux and departments.

To develop a better understanding and awareness of gender-related issues and gender mainstreaming across the civil service, LWB has continued with its on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants. In 2011-12, 610 civil servants of different grades and ranks attended various gender-related training. LWB has also collaborated with the Civil Aid Service, Hongkong Post, Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority, and Buildings Department in arranging tailor-made programmes for their staff. Gender-related training has also been included as part of the induction training for all newly recruited Administrative Officers and Executive Officers since 2001 and 2010 respectively. In addition, regular gender-related training has been arranged for newly promoted Executive Officers I since 2010. To enable all civil servants to receive gender-related training in a more flexible manner, we have been running an online training programme on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues since 2010.

LWB has also developed a web-portal on gender mainstreaming for reference by all civil servants since 2009. It contains information on gender mainstreaming and its application, as well as hyperlinks to useful websites. It also sets out over 40 examples of different policy or programme areas that have adopted gender mainstreaming. The web-portal has been uploaded to the website of LWB for public reference.

In 2012-13, we will continue with our efforts to provide various gender-related training for civil servants. The resources required for carrying out relevant measures will be absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Bureau will “continue to provide support to the Task Force on Poverty which monitors and co-ordinates efforts across the Government in poverty alleviation”. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee of:

- (a) the details of the progress of the Task Force on Poverty in the past year; the manpower and resources involved in the relevant work; and the efforts and resources expected to be committed in the coming year; and
- (b) whether the Administration has assessed the effectiveness of its efforts in poverty alleviation; whether the Administration has any plan, in the light of widening disparity between the rich and the poor, to devise comprehensive and feasible solutions to the address the problem. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (a) After the Commission on Poverty (CoP) concluded its work in 2007, the Government set up the Task Force on Poverty (TFP), headed by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare, to follow up CoP’s recommendations and coordinate the Government’s efforts in alleviating poverty.

In 2011-12, the TFP continued to monitor the progress of the Government in implementing the recommendations of CoP. Most of the recommendations made by CoP have been or are being implemented, including establishing the \$300 million Child Development Fund (CDF) and rolling out three batches of projects; strengthening training and retraining to enhance the skills and competitiveness of young people as well as the middle-aged and low-income earners; and setting up an “Employment in One-stop” service centre to streamline and integrate the employment services provided by the Labour Department, the Social Welfare Department and the Employees Retraining Board.

Insofar as the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) is concerned, a Poverty Team provides secretariat support to TFP and is also responsible for overseeing/implementing certain initiatives on poverty alleviation under LWB (e.g. CDF, short-term food assistance, etc.). The provision for the Poverty Team in 2011-12 was \$3.49 million and is \$3.64 million in 2012-13. The amounts cover the cost of five staff comprising two Administrative Officers, one Executive Officer and two secretarial and clerical support staff. Various bureaux and departments represented in the TFP have also deployed suitable manpower and resources to this cause as part of their portfolios.

- (b) The Administration adopts a pragmatic and multi-pronged approach to poverty alleviation. Of paramount importance is promoting economic growth, thereby enabling the community to share the fruits of prosperity. At the same time, we invest heavily in education, training and retraining to enhance social mobility. We also provide employment support, which includes enhancing the quality of the workforce and setting a reasonable wage level for workers. For those who cannot be self-reliant, our social security system can help them meet basic needs. TFP will continue to monitor the poverty situation in Hong Kong, and explore if there is any effective new initiative which can help alleviate poverty.

Signature	PAUL TANG
Name in block letters	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Post Title	5.3.2012
Date	

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the work to “improve communication and facilitate collaboration between the Government and non-governmental organisations, and strengthen liaison with relevant international and regional bodies on women’s matters”, how many large-scale programmes had been organised or co-organised by the Administration in the past year (i.e. 2011-12)? Please provide a brief description as well as the manpower and expenditure involved for each programme.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply :

To enhance mutual understanding and foster a closer partnership with local women’s groups and relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), together with the Women’s Commission (WoC), regularly meets with these organisations to exchange views on issues of concern to women. In 2011-12, LWB supported WoC in arranging six exchange sessions with women’s groups and related NGOs. Issues discussed included future development of WoC’s Capacity Building Mileage Programme to encourage women to pursue life-long learning and self-development, support services to ethnic minority women, compilation of sex disaggregated data, women’s leadership training, and survey findings on the status of women, etc.

To unleash women’s capacities and potential, a pilot funding scheme for women’s development was rolled out by WoC in collaboration with LWB in October 2011. “Women’s Leadership Training” was adopted as the theme and women’s groups were provided with funds to organise programmes and activities that were able to develop and enhance the leadership skills of women, as well as to encourage and facilitate women to become leaders in the local communities. In 2012-13, LWB will continue to work with WoC in administering the funding scheme.

In the past year, WoC continued to field representatives to participate in key regional and international fora, including the annual session of the United Nations Commission

on the Status of Women as well as the inaugural Women and the Economy Summit under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. In November 2011, a 20-strong delegation comprising officers from LWB and Environment Bureau, as well as representatives from WoC, Council for Sustainable Development and local women's groups participated in the International Forum on Women and Sustainable Development organised by the All-China Women's Federation in Beijing.

In addition to participating in regional and international fora, visits to and meetings with women's organisations from overseas and the Mainland are organised from time to time. In 2011-12, four meetings and exchange sessions were held among LWB, WoC and representatives of women's organisations from overseas and the Mainland.

The resources required for carrying out the above programmes are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the consultancy studies (if any) commissioned by the Labour and Welfare Bureau and its departments for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

- (a) Using the table below, please provide information on studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated between 2009-10 and 2011-12:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies in 2012-13? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	For the projects that are expected to be completed in 2012-13, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (c) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

(a) The consultancy studies commissioned by the Labour and Welfare Bureau and its departments which were funded between 2009-10 and 2011-12 were as follows –

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$'000)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
The University of Hong Kong	Invitation of quotations	Evaluative study on the design and effectiveness of the New Dawn (ND) Project for single parents/ child carers under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme	350	2006	Completed	With the positive findings of the consultancy study, the Social Welfare Department has launched the new phase of ND Project from 1 April 2010 to 31 December 2012.	The study report and findings were presented to the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services (LegCo WS Panel) on 14 December 2009.
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Open for applications (Note)	A study to investigate factors that affect long-term care use in Hong Kong	437	2007	Completed	The findings would be used as reference in formulating relevant policies.	The final report was uploaded onto the website of the Research Fund Secretariat of the Food and Health Bureau for public information.
The University of Hong Kong	Open for applications (Note)	A study about the preference of old age home residents in receiving end-of-life care	754	2007	Completed	The findings would be used as reference in formulating relevant policies.	The final report was uploaded onto the website of the Research Fund Secretariat of the Food and Health Bureau for public information.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$'000)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Open for applications (Note)	A study to develop a tool to identify high-risk elders and to look into the effects of structured emergency department intervention on hospitalisation	1,208	2007	Completed	The findings would be used as reference in formulating relevant policies.	The final report will be uploaded onto the website of the Research Fund Secretariat of the Food and Health Bureau for public information.
The University of Hong Kong	Invitation of quotations	Elderly Commission (EC)'s consultancy study on residential care services for the elderly	1,289	2008	Completed	The findings were used as reference in formulating relevant policies. In view of the study recommendations, EC initiated another study in 2010 on how to strengthen community care services for the elderly.	The study and its findings were presented to the LegCo WS Panel on 11 January 2010. The study report was uploaded onto the website of EC for public information.
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Tender	Consultancy Study on the Child Development Fund Pioneer Projects	2,100	2008	In progress	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
The University of Hong Kong	Invitation of quotations	EC's consultancy study on community care services for the elderly	1,398	2010	Completed	The findings were used as reference in formulating relevant policies. The Government accepted the study's major recommendation on community care service voucher for the elderly, and will implement	The study and its findings were presented to the LegCo WS Panel on 11 July 2011. The study report was uploaded onto the website of EC for public information.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$'000)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
						the relevant pilot scheme in 2013-14. The LegCo WS Panel was briefed on the preliminary proposal on 13 February 2012.	
The City University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Invitation of quotations	Evaluation of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) (Phase 2)	761	2010	In progress	Not applicable.	The final report will be uploaded onto the website of the CIIF for public information.
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Invitation of quotations	Evaluative Study of the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged (PFD) to review the effectiveness of the PFD and to suggest the future direction of the Fund	735	2010	In progress	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
Mercado Solutions Associates Ltd.	Invitation of quotations	Establishment Survey for the Manpower Projection to 2018 (MP2018)	946	2010	Completed	The survey results have been incorporated into the findings of MP2018. The report on MP2018 is being compiled.	The survey results have been incorporated into the findings of MP2018. The Government will release the report on MP2018.
The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention, the University of Hong Kong	Invitation of quotations	Evaluative study of Three Pilot Cyber Youth Outreaching Projects (PCYOPs) to assess the feasibility, effectiveness and cost-	158	2011	In progress	Not applicable.	Not applicable.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$'000)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		effectiveness of the PCYOPs and to recommend the way forward					
Policy 21 Limited, the University of Hong Kong	Invitation of quotations	Study of the impact of statutory minimum wage on pay hierarchies in the retail and restaurants sectors	510	2011	In progress	Not applicable.	Not applicable.

Note: Applications were received and processed by the Research Fund Secretariat of the Food and Health Bureau.

(b) Funds have been reserved in 2012-13 for conducting the following consultancy studies –

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$'000)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	For the projects that are expected to be completed in 2012-13, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Tender	Consultancy Study on the Child Development Fund Pioneer Projects	1,225	2008	In progress	Taking into account the findings and recommendations of the study, the Government will consider the long-term model of the Child Development Fund which will be publicised.
The City University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Invitation of quotations	Evaluation of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) (Phase 2)	85	2010	In progress	The final report will be uploaded onto the website of the CIIF for public information.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$'000)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	For the projects that are expected to be completed in 2012-13, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
The Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention, the University of Hong Kong	Invitation of quotations	Evaluative study of Three Pilot Cyber Youth Outreaching Projects (PCYOPs) to assess the feasibility, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the PCYOPs and to recommend the way forward	237	2011	In progress	Not applicable.

- (c) The criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects include technical assessment of the proposals (such as the knowledge and experience of the research institutions in the subject area, the proposed approach, methodology and work programme in conducting the studies and the past performance of the institutions) and the fee proposal.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In regard to the growing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in recent years, please provide relevant information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in which the Labour and Welfare Bureau is or has been involved.

- (a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes from 2009-10 to 2011-12, please provide information in the following format:

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipate completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

- (b) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in 2012-13, please provide information in the following format:

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipate completion date)	Will the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology be released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what will the manpower and expenditure be involved? If no, what are the reasons?

- (c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of cross-boundary co-operation? If yes, what are they? What were the manpower

and expenditure involved in the past 3 years, and what are the financial and manpower resources earmarked in the 2012-13 estimate?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau does not have any Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in the financial years in question.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

- (a) It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government would inject \$100 million into the Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprises Project, under which funding is granted to non-government organisations to set up small enterprises employing people with disabilities. In this connection, please advise on the details of the Project and the number of posts for people with disabilities.
- (b) Has the Government studied ways to promote and facilitate employment of people with disabilities by private enterprises?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) In 2001-02, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) was provided with a one-off allocation of \$50 million to introduce the “Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project” (“3E’s Project”). Through granting seed money to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for the setting up of small enterprises, the 3E’s Project creates job opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Under the 3E’s Project, SWD provides NGOs with a maximum funding support of \$2 million per business to meet the set-up capital cost on equipment, fitting-out works, etc. and operating expenses incurred in the initial two years of business operation. To achieve the ultimate goal of promoting employment for persons with disabilities, a funded business needs to fulfill the requirement that the number of employees with disabilities should not be less than 50% of the total number of persons on the payroll of the business. Through the funding support for setting up these businesses, persons with disabilities can enjoy genuine employment in a sympathetic working environment.

As at December 2011, 70 businesses had been set up under the 3E's Project, creating over 550 jobs specifically for persons with disabilities. In order to create more job opportunities for persons with disabilities, we have obtained the approval of the Legislative Council Finance Committee and will soon inject \$100 million into the 3E's Project. The Government will also enhance the support for the small enterprises under the 3E's Project by for example, extending the funding period from a maximum of two years to three years.

- (b) To promote the employment for persons with disabilities in the private sector, we will continue to implement various incentive schemes and enhance public understanding of the working abilities of persons with disabilities through public education activities.

On incentive schemes, the Labour Department (LD) has implemented the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme under which a participating employer will receive a financial incentive equivalent to two-thirds of the actual salary paid to each employee with disabilities during the employment period up to 6 months, with a ceiling of \$4,000 per month. Furthermore, in 2012-13, SWD has earmarked an annual recurrent provision of \$8 million to provide subsidies to employers of persons with disabilities for procuring assistive devices and carrying out workplace modification works, thereby enabling persons with disabilities to work more efficiently and facilitating them to secure open employment. We estimate that 400 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme. In addition, through providing a mentorship award as financial incentive, we aim to encourage employers to render workplace guidance to employees with disabilities and help them adapt to new jobs. SWD will offer each mentor a one-off award of \$500 as encouragement. We estimate that 2 700 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme.

On public education, the Labour and Welfare Bureau and the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee have been adopting "Promotion of Employment for Persons with Disabilities" as one of the major themes of the annual public education programme on rehabilitation in the past years. The public education activities include recognition awards for employers supporting the employment of persons with disabilities, outreaching visits to chambers of commerce and employers' associations, experience sharing workshops, job fairs, etc. Through these efforts, we aim to enhance the understanding of different sectors, including the private sector, in the working capabilities of persons with disabilities, and the employment support services rendered by various government departments and rehabilitation organisations. In tandem, LD, the Shine Skills Centres of Vocational Training Council and various rehabilitation NGOs, apart from organising publicity activities to promote employment of persons with disabilities, continue to maintain effective communication with employers of the private sector to encourage them to offer more job opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)022

Question Serial No.

1818

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Last year's Policy Address announced the provision of public transport concessions for the elderly and eligible people with disabilities to travel on the general MTR lines, franchised buses and ferries at a concessionary fare of \$2 a trip. The Government has indicated that it is discussing the details of and specific arrangements for the concession scheme with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited, with a view to launching the concession scheme in 2012-13. In this regard, please provide the following information:

- (a) the current progress of the discussion;
- (b) whether the concession scheme is permanent in nature? What are the estimated annual expenditure (listed by modes of transport) and the number of beneficiaries (listed by elderly people and eligible people with disabilities);
- (c) whether the concession scheme will be extended to cover other modes of transport, such as green minibuses? If yes, what are the details and timeframes? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) & (b) Since the announcement of the public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme) in the 2011-12 Policy Address, the Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been proactively liaising with the public transport operators concerned i.e. Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Corporation Limited, five franchised bus companies and numerous ferry service operators on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements for the Scheme. We are also exploring with the Octopus Cards Limited (OCL) with respect to necessary hardware and software support. The negotiation with the public transport operators concerned and the OCL is in full swing.

Our aim is to finalise all the arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the Scheme as soon as possible in the second half of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned.

The estimated expenditure can only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised. We estimate that about 980 000 elderly people and 130 000 eligible persons with disabilities will benefit from the Scheme.

- (c) Much complicated and time-consuming preparatory work has to be done before the Scheme can be launched. To enable the elderly and eligible persons with disabilities to enjoy the concessionary fares as soon as possible, our present priority is to launch the Scheme as explained above. Following the full implementation of the Scheme, we will review whether to expand its scope to cover other modes of transport.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In 2012-13, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) will formulate the implementation details of and launch the public transport concession scheme for the elderly and eligible persons with disabilities. What are the plan and timetable of the work? And what are the estimated resources and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

The LWB, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with the preparatory work for the public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme). The negotiation with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements of the Scheme is in full swing. We have also started the preparatory work on amending the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. Our aim is to finalise all arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the Scheme as soon as possible in the second half of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned. The estimated expenditure can only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Provision for 2012-13 is \$105.1 million (47.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2011-12. This is mainly due to additional provision for implementing the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients on a territory-wide basis and other departmental expenses. Please provide the detailed breakdown of the relevant expenses.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

The breakdown of the \$105.1 million increase in provision is as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u> (\$ million)
(a) Additional provision for implementing the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients on a territory-wide basis	42.6
(b) Net increase in provision for on-going initiatives and departmental expenses	32.7
(c) Increase in cash flow requirements for non-recurrent items including the Child Development Fund and the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund	20.6
(d) Additional provision for financial assistance for family members of those who sacrifice their lives to save others	7.0
(e) Increase in personal emoluments	2.2
Total :	<hr/> 105.1

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would support the Women's Commission (WoC) in promoting the well-being and interests of women through the three-pronged strategy. In the Hong Kong Women's Development Goals Report published by WoC, it is suggested that employers should put in place policies and measures relating to sexual harassment so as to safeguard employees' rights at work. Please advise this Committee of the follow-up measures taken by the Administration and for the various programmes involved, the revised estimated expenditure for last year and the estimated expenditure for this year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

In response to the suggestions in the Women's Development Goals Report, the Administration has been collaborating with the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) in preventing sexual harassment in the workplace. Specifically, a zero-tolerance culture against sexual harassment in the workplace has been promoted through a variety of channels, including a wide range of publications, mass media messages on TV, radio and on-line platforms, poster advertisements at MTR stations, online training programmes and roving exhibitions targeting the general public as well as business operators. The EOC also provides training programmes and consultancy services to commercial and public organisations, women's groups, trade unions, tertiary institutions, and other relevant organisations on the prevention of sexual harassment in the workplace.

In addition, the Labour Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been assisting WoC in launching publicity and public education programmes to promote gender awareness including mutual respect for both genders. To this end, WoC has been launching TV drama programmes, roving exhibitions, as well as interactive educational drama for primary and secondary school students. LWB will continue to work with WoC in launching publicity and public education programmes to promote gender awareness and nurture a culture of mutual respect for both genders in the community. We will also enrich the

relevant module on prevention of sexual harassment under the Capacity Building Mileage Programme of WoC in collaboration with EOC.

The resources required for implementing the above measures and programmes are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB and EOC.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would support the Women's Commission (WoC) in promoting the well-being and interests of women through the three-pronged strategy. In Hong Kong Women's Development Goals published by WoC, it is pointed out that resources designated for women's development in Hong Kong are still inadequate, making it difficult for WoC and women's groups to advance their work in this regard. Please advise this Committee of the follow-up measures taken by the Administration and for the various programmes involved, the revised estimated expenditure for last year and the estimated expenditure for this year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The WoC, with the assistance of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), published the Women's Development Goals Report (the Report) in December 2011. The Report proposes 14 goals and 36 strategies in areas including participation in decision-making, health, safety, education, economics and system for women's development, with a view to formulating a systematic plan for the continuous development of women in Hong Kong.

As pointed out in the Report, LWB has been providing resources and assistance to WoC in promoting the well-being and interests of women through a three-pronged strategy, viz. the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women and public education. In particular, a team of officers in LWB is responsible for, inter alia, providing secretariat support for WoC and help implement programmes initiated by the Commission.

To unleash women's capacities and potential, a pilot funding scheme for women's development was rolled out by WoC in collaboration with LWB in October 2011. "Women's Leadership Training" was adopted as the theme and women's groups were provided with funds to organise programmes and activities that were able to develop and enhance the leadership skills of women, as well as to encourage and facilitate

women to become leaders in the local communities. In 2012-13, LWB will continue to work with WoC in administering the funding scheme.

The revised estimated expenditure in 2011-12 for promoting women's interests was \$24.5 million and the estimated expenditure in 2012-13 is \$28.5 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would support the Women's Commission (WoC) in promoting the well-being and interests of women through the three-pronged strategy. In the Hong Kong Women's Development Goals Report published by WoC, it is suggested that more efforts should be made to promote the awareness of mental health among women. Please advise this Committee of the follow-up measures taken by the Administration and for the various programmes involved, the revised estimated expenditure for last year and the estimated expenditure for this year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

In response to the suggestions in the Women's Development Goals Report, the Administration and relevant parties have been implementing various measures to promote the awareness of mental health among women. In particular, the Department of Health (DH) will assess pregnant and postnatal mothers attending Maternal and Child Health Centres for psychological problems and offer supportive counselling where necessary. Referrals to specialists and community services for various treatment and rehabilitation services are also arranged as appropriate. On raising the awareness of women on mental health and the provision of relevant services, DH has produced a variety of education materials on mental health promotion, including leaflets and resources that are relevant to women. Such resources are available at clinics/health centres, relevant websites and a 24-hour telephone information system for the public. Efforts on this front will continue.

With the assistance of DH, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and women's groups, WoC published the "Guide to Women's Health Services" (the Guide) in January 2012. The Guide contains information on various health services, including clinical and counselling services related to mental health, that are provided by DH and NGOs to women across the territory. The Guide has been distributed to the public through NGOs and women's groups, and uploaded onto WoC's website for easy reference by women.

In 2012-13, the Administration will continue to promote the awareness of mental health among women through various measures and programmes. The resources required for implementing such measures and programmes are absorbed within the existing provisions of relevant bureaux and departments and cannot be separately identified.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)028

Question Serial No.

0064

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would support the Women's Commission (WoC) in promoting the well-being and interests of women through the three-pronged strategy. In Hong Kong Women's Development Goals published by WoC, one of the goals proposed is to enhance women's participation in decision making in public affairs. Please advise this Committee of the follow-up measures taken by the Administration and for the various programmes involved, the revised estimated expenditure for last year and the estimated expenditure for this year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The WoC, with the assistance of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), published the Women's Development Goals Report (the Report) in December 2011. The Report proposes 14 goals and 36 strategies in areas including participation in decision making, health, safety, education, economics and system for women's development, with a view to formulating a systematic plan for the continuous development of women in Hong Kong.

To follow up the suggestions in the Report, the Administration and relevant parties have been implementing various measures to enhance women's participation in decision making in public affairs. In particular, WoC has issued letters to different political parties, urging them to identify and encourage more women to run for the District Council and Legislative Council elections, and to incorporate women's concerns and needs into their election platforms. Positive responses have been received from various political parties. To encourage women, in particular retirees, to participate in public and community services, the Elderly Commission will continue to promote the Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project, under which elderly volunteers are trained to help identify needy elderly in the neighbourhood. In addition, LWB will collaborate with WoC to encourage more women to participate in public and community services.

Furthermore, LWB has been working closely with WoC and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the subject policy bureau for matters relating to advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs), to further promote women's participation in ASBs. A proactive approach has been taken to achieve the target, including –

- (a) requiring all submissions making recommendations for appointments to ASBs to include a paragraph on gender consideration;
- (b) encouraging bureaux and departments to reach out, identify and nurture women who are able and willing to contribute to the work of ASBs; and
- (c) increasing the number of female candidates in the Central Personality Index maintained by HAB.

Taking into account the advice of WoC, HAB set a gender benchmark of 25% in 2004 as an initial working target for appointment to ASBs. To further encourage women's participation in ASBs, and also on the advice of WoC, the gender benchmark was raised from 25% to 30% with effect from June 2010. In July 2010, WoC issued letters to women's associations and professional organisations inviting their female members to provide their curricula vitae for inclusion in the Central Personality Index with a view to enhancing women's participation in ASBs. As at the end of 2011, 31% of the appointed members were female.

The Administration will continue to work with WoC and other stakeholders to enhance women's participation in decision making in public affairs in 2012-13. The resources required for implementing relevant measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of relevant bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

As advised by the Administration, it will empower women and enable them to participate more fully in the community. Please advise this Committee of the concrete plans, as well as their respective revised expenditure in the last year and their estimated expenditure in the current year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Empowering women and enabling them to participate more fully in community is an important work of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and Women's Commission (WoC). To this end, we have assisted WoC in implementing the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP) since 2004. CBMP is a flexible learning programme tailored to the needs and interests of women. It is delivered through radio broadcasting and courses offered face-to-face and on the internet, supplemented by optional learning activities. The courses provided include building harmonious families, parenting, family health, women leadership, management of personal finance and other practical issues in daily life.

Since its launch, CBMP has encouraged women of different backgrounds and education levels to pursue life-long learning and self-development. Up to November 2011, the cumulative number of enrolment for CBMP exceeded 53 000, not to mention the large network of audience reached through the radio programmes. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by the Open University of Hong Kong in 2011, it was estimated that about 1.4 million people had listened to the CBMP radio programmes so far. Feedback from the students indicated that they benefited from CBMP in terms of increased interests in learning, enhanced confidence and knowledge in resolving problems in daily life, and sharpened communication skills which help improve their interpersonal relationships in the family and employment contexts.

CBMP was first operated on a pilot basis. With its proven success in encouraging women's life-long learning, the Administration allocated in March 2007 around \$9.8

million to support the continued operation of CBMP, such that CBMP course fee could continue to be maintained at an affordable level. In 2009-10, the Administration allocated \$20 million to expand CBMP and provide fee remissions to those students with financial difficulties for three years. Starting from 2012-13, the Administration will provide an annual funding of around \$8 million to turn CBMP into a recurrent project.

LWB has been working closely with WoC and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the subject policy bureau for matters relating to advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs), to further promote women's participation in ASBs. A proactive approach has been taken to achieve the target, including –

- (d) requiring all submissions making recommendations for appointments to ASBs to include a paragraph on gender consideration;
- (e) encouraging bureaux and departments to reach out, identify and nurture women who are able and willing to contribute to the work of ASBs; and
- (f) increasing the number of female candidates in the Central Personality Index maintained by HAB.

These measures will continue in 2012-13. The Administration will also keep monitoring the situation and reminding bureaux and departments of the importance of further enhancing women's participation in ASBs under their respective purview.

Taking into account the advice of WoC, HAB set a gender benchmark of 25% in 2004 as an initial working target for appointment to ASBs. To further encourage women's participation in ASBs, and also on the advice of WoC, the gender benchmark was raised from 25% to 30% with effect from June 2010. In July 2010, WoC issued letters to women's associations and professional organisations inviting their female members to provide their curricula vitae for inclusion in the Central Personality Index with a view to enhancing women's participation in ASBs. As at the end of 2011, 31% of the appointed members were female. In the coming year, the Administration will continue to work with WoC to keep track of the progress in promoting women's participation in ASBs, expand the pool of women leaders available for appointments through initiatives to empower women, and encourage more women from professional bodies, women's groups, non-governmental organisations, etc. to participate in ASBs.

To unleash women's capacities and potential, a pilot funding scheme for women's development was rolled out by WoC in collaboration with LWB in October 2011. "Women's Leadership Training" was adopted as the theme and women's groups were provided with funds to organise programmes and activities that were able to develop and enhance the leadership skills of women, as well as to encourage and facilitate women to become leaders in the local communities. In 2012-13, LWB will continue to work with WoC in administering the funding scheme.

The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

LWB(WW)030

Question Serial No.

0068

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would ensure adherence to the relevant international conventions and agreements on women's matters in Hong Kong. Please advise on the specific plans to implement the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; and the revised estimated expenditure for the past year as well as the estimated expenditure for the current year for these plans.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Administration is committed to the advancement of the interests and well-being of women in Hong Kong, and to discharging its obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), together with relevant bureaux and departments, have put in place various policies and measures to fulfil the objectives under CEDAW.

In 2011-12, the Administration completed the preparation for the third report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) under CEDAW. The report provided details on the progress of the HKSAR on the implementation of CEDAW since the last report submitted in 2004. To prepare for the report, LWB conducted a public consultation on the subjects and topics to be covered in the report. Views from stakeholders, including the Legislative Council, relevant non-governmental organisations and women's groups, have been incorporated into relevant sections of the report as appropriate. The report was submitted to the United Nations in January 2012 as part of the combined seventh and eighth report of the People's Republic of China.

In addition, on-going efforts have been made to enhance public understanding and awareness of CEDAW. These include organising conferences, seminars and roving exhibitions in public libraries, district community centres and government premises, etc. LWB has also supported a series of community activities organised by local women's groups to enhance public understanding of CEDAW.

In 2012-13, the Administration will continue with its efforts to implement its obligations under CEDAW and enhance public awareness and understanding of the convention. The resources required in implementing and publicising CEDAW are absorbed from within the existing resources of LWB and those of the relevant bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would identify the needs and concerns of women, and improve delivery of services to them. Please advise this Committee on problems which women are facing as identified by the Administration, plans to help them, and the revised estimates of expenditure for various plans last year and their estimates of expenditure this year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Women's Commission (WoC) was established in 2001 as the central mechanism for enhancing the status and well-being of women. Since its establishment, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been working closely with it in addressing the needs and concerns of women. To this end, we have been working with WoC to keep under review, in the light of women's needs and perspectives, different policies and services related to women. We have also been assisting WoC in arranging exchange sessions, seminars and conferences to solicit stakeholders' views on issues of common concern to women.

LWB has been collaborating with WoC to enable women to fully realise their rights, status and potential, through a three-pronged strategy, viz. the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women and public education. To provide an enabling environment for women, the Administration has been implementing gender mainstreaming in various policy and programme areas since 2002. In this respect, WoC developed a Gender Mainstreaming Checklist in 2002 and revised it in late 2009 to enable Government officers to apply gender mainstreaming in a systematic manner. Between 2008 to 2011, LWB assisted WoC in conducting the fourth round of district visits. Feedbacks from the District Councils (DCs) were positive, with clear undertaking to support worthy projects conducive to women's development and well-being in their respective districts where appropriate. Tsuen Wan, Sai Kung, Kwun Tong, Southern, Wong Tai Sin, Yau Tsim Mong, Yuen Long and Shatin DCs have

organised activities with women focus in the districts. Such collaborative efforts with DCs will continue in 2012-13.

To empower women and to enable them to pursue life-long learning and self-development, we have continued with our on-going efforts to support WoC in implementing the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP). Up to November 2011, the cumulative number of enrolment for CBMP exceeded 53 000, not to mention the large network of audience reached through the radio programmes. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by the Open University of Hong Kong in 2011, it was estimated that about 1.4 million people had listened to the CBMP radio programmes so far. Feedback from the students indicated that they benefited from CBMP in terms of increased interests in learning, enhanced confidence and knowledge in resolving problems in daily life, and sharpened communication skills which help improve their interpersonal relationships in the family and employment contexts. In 2012-13, we will continue to work with WoC in implementing CBMP in order to strengthen women's capacity in managing various issues in their daily lives.

Enhancing women's participation in decision making in public affairs is also an effective means to empower women. To this end, the Administration has been working closely with WoC in promoting women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs). On the advice of WoC, the Administration raised the gender benchmark target for participation in ASBs from 25% to 30% with effect from June 2010. In July 2010, WoC wrote to women's associations and professional organisations inviting their female members to provide their curricula vitae to the Central Personality Index maintained by the Administration. As at the end of 2011, 31% of the appointed members of the ASBs were women. The Administration will continue to work with WoC to encourage more women to participate in ASBs, and keep in view the need to adjust the gender benchmark as appropriate.

On public education, LWB has been supporting WoC in organising various programmes and activities seeking to reduce gender prejudice and stereotype in society and raise public awareness of gender-related issues. These include organising open forums and seminars, producing announcements of public interest on television, radio and posters, as well as organising various types of competitions and celebration events for the International Women's Day (IWD) on 8 March every year. In 2011-12, LWB assisted WoC in producing a series of TV drama and 5-minuter on the different situations of women in Hong Kong. A premiere of the television series was also organised in March 2011 to celebrate IWD and the 10th anniversary of WoC. We will continue with our on-going efforts in organising public education and publicity programmes to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues.

The resources required for implementing the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB as well as relevant bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration indicates that it will work with relevant parties to enhance women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies. Please inform this Committee what plans the Administration has to achieve this objective. Please also advise on the 2011-12 revised estimated expenditure and 2012-13 estimated expenditure on each of such plans.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau has been working closely with the Women's Commission (WoC) and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the subject policy bureau for matters relating to advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs), to further promote women's participation in ASBs. A proactive approach has been taken to achieve the target, including –

- (g) requiring all submissions making recommendations for appointments to ASBs to include a paragraph on gender consideration;
- (h) encouraging bureaux and departments to reach out, identify and nurture women who are able and willing to contribute to the work of ASBs; and
- (i) increasing the number of female candidates in the Central Personality Index maintained by HAB.

These measures will continue in 2012-13. The Administration will also keep monitoring the situation and reminding bureaux and departments of the importance of further enhancing women's participation in ASBs under their respective purview.

Taking into account the advice of WoC, HAB set a gender benchmark of 25% in 2004 as an initial working target for appointment to ASBs. To further encourage women's participation in ASBs, and also on the advice of WoC, the gender benchmark was raised

from 25% to 30% with effect from June 2010. In July 2010, WoC issued letters to women's associations and professional organisations inviting their female members to provide their curricula vitae for inclusion in the Central Personality Index with a view to enhancing women's participation in ASBs. As at the end of 2011, 31% of the appointed members were female. In the coming year, the Administration will continue to work with WoC to keep track of the progress in promoting women's participation in ASBs, expand the pool of women leaders available for appointments through initiatives to empower women, and encourage more women from professional bodies, women's groups, non-governmental organisations, etc. to participate in ASBs.

The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of concerned bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration states that it will improve communication and facilitate collaboration between the Government and non-governmental organisations, and strengthen liaison with relevant international and regional bodies on women's matter. Please inform this Committee of the programmes implemented and their effectiveness, as well as the expenditure in 2011-12 and the estimate for 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

To enhance mutual understanding and foster a closer partnership with local women's groups and relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), together with the Women's Commission (WoC), regularly meets with these organisations to exchange views on issues of concern to women. In 2011-12, LWB supported WoC in arranging six exchange sessions with women's groups and related NGOs. Issues discussed included future development of WoC's Capacity Building Mileage Programme to encourage women to pursue life-long learning and self-development, support services to ethnic minority women, compilation of sex disaggregated data, women's leadership training, and survey findings on the status of women, etc.

To unleash women's capacities and potential, a pilot funding scheme for women's development was rolled out by WoC in collaboration with LWB in October 2011. "Women's Leadership Training" was adopted as the theme and women's groups were provided with funds to organise programmes and activities that were able to develop and enhance the leadership skills of women, as well as to encourage and facilitate women to become leaders in the local communities. In 2012-13, LWB will continue to work with WoC in administering the funding scheme.

In the past year, WoC continued to field representatives to participate in key regional and international fora, including the annual session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women as well as the inaugural Women and the Economy Summit

under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. In November 2011, a 20-strong delegation comprising officers from LWB and Environment Bureau, as well as representatives from WoC, Council for Sustainable Development and local women's groups participated in the International Forum on Women and Sustainable Development organised by the All-China Women's Federation in Beijing.

In addition to participating in regional and international fora, visits to and meetings with women's organisations from overseas and the Mainland are organised from time to time. In 2011-12, four meetings and exchange sessions were held among LWB, WoC and representatives of women's organisations from overseas and the Mainland.

The resources required for carrying out the above programmes are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration states that it will conduct regular meetings and exchanges with local women's groups and service agencies, and participate in key international and regional fora on women's matters. Please inform this Committee of the programmes implemented and their effectiveness, as well as the expenditure involved in 2011-12 and the estimates for 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

To enhance mutual understanding and foster a closer partnership with local women's groups and relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), together with the Women's Commission (WoC), regularly meets with these organisations to exchange views on issues of concern to women. In 2011-12, LWB supported WoC in arranging six exchange sessions with women's groups and related NGOs. Issues discussed included future development of WoC's Capacity Building Mileage Programme to encourage women to pursue life-long learning and self-development, support services to ethnic minority women, compilation of sex disaggregated data, women's leadership training, and survey findings on the status of women, etc.

In the past year, WoC continued to field representatives to participate in key regional and international fora, including the annual session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women as well as the inaugural Women and the Economy Summit under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. In November 2011, a 20-strong delegation comprising officers from LWB and Environment Bureau, as well as representatives from WoC, Council for Sustainable Development and local women's groups participated in the International Forum on Women and Sustainable Development organised by the All-China Women's Federation in Beijing.

In addition to participating in regional and international fora, visits to and meetings with women's organisations from overseas and the Mainland of China are organised from

time to time. In 2011-12, four meetings and exchange sessions were held among LWB, WoC and representatives of women's organisations from overseas and the Mainland.

The resources required for carrying out the above programmes are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration indicates that it will review policies and services related to women and promote the development of new or improved services, including new models and good practices. Please advise this Committee on the programmes that have been conducted, the effectiveness of the programmes, the expenditure involved last year and the estimated expenditure for this year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Over the years, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been working with the Women's Commission (WoC) to keep under review policies and services related to women in the light of women's needs. In 2011-12, key policies and programmes reviewed by WoC included services for new arrival women, provision of correctional services for female offenders, promotion of breast-feeding, handling of domestic violence and sexual violence cases, women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies, and tackling of municipal solid waste. Representatives of the concerned bureaux and departments such as Home Affairs Department, Correctional Services Department, Department of Health, Hong Kong Police Force, Home Affairs Bureau and Environmental Protection Department were invited to brief WoC on their respective policies and programmes, and WoC members provided advice and recommendations to them from the gender perspective. Bureaux and departments followed up on the advice and recommendations as appropriate and updated WoC on progress from time to time. If necessary, WoC would invite relevant bureaux and departments for further discussion.

In 2012-13, LWB will keep up its efforts and continue to work with WoC to review policies and programmes of concern to women. The resources required for carrying out the above measures will be absorbed within the existing provision of LWB, as well as those of other bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration indicates that it will conduct public education and publicity programmes to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues. Please advise this Committee on the programmes that have been conducted, the effectiveness of the programmes, the expenditure involved last year and the estimated expenditure for this year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Over the years, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been working closely with the Women's Commission (WoC) in organising various publicity and public education programmes to reduce gender prejudice and stereotype in society and raise public awareness of gender-related issues. These include organising forums and seminars, publishing press articles on newspapers and WoC's website, producing Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, as well as organising various types of competitions and celebration events for the International Women's Day (IWD) on 8 March every year.

In 2011-12, LWB assisted WoC in producing a series of TV drama and 5-minuter on the different situations of women in Hong Kong. A premiere of the TV series was also organised in March 2011 to celebrate IWD and the 10th anniversary of WoC. We also published a report on the key findings of a WoC survey entitled "What do Women and Men in Hong Kong Think about the Status of Women at Home, Work and in Social Environments", and a booklet on "Hong Kong Women in Figures 2011" to enhance public understanding of the situation of women in Hong Kong.

In 2012-13, LWB will assist WoC in enhancing the accessibility of the WoC website, producing a new corporate video and a new leaflet to help publicise the work of WoC in advancing the interests and well-being of women. We will also arrange a roving exhibition on services for women provided by different women's groups and

non-governmental organisations. Our on-going efforts in organising various publicity and public education programmes on gender-related issues will also be continued.

The resources required for carrying out the above programmes will be absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would promote the implementation of the “Gender Mainstreaming Checklist” and gender mainstreaming concept to more policy areas through the ‘Gender Focal Points Network’ within the Government. Please provide details of expenditure, projects and results of the promotion work relating to the “Gender Mainstreaming Checklist”, gender mainstreaming concept, as well as establishment of the “Gender Focal Points Network” within the Government in the past three financial years, as well as detailed estimates for the relevant work in the future.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

With the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), the Administration has been implementing gender mainstreaming since 2002. WoC developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officers in incorporating gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes in a systematic manner, so that women and men can have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. Taking into account comments received from stakeholders as well as the practical experience gained in applying the Checklist over the years, WoC revised and enhanced the Checklist in late 2009.

The Administration has applied the Checklist to over 40 policy or programme areas, including the 2011 Village Representative Election, development of gender-specific risks and needs programme for women offenders, the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, 2011 Population Census, Travel Characteristic Survey 2011, enhanced support services for ethnic minorities and new arrivals, etc.

In addition to the application of the Checklist, bureaux and departments have also applied the concept of gender mainstreaming to their daily work, including the provision of first aid services to the public, vocational training for prisoners, and the compilation of sex-disaggregated statistics, etc.

To facilitate the promotion of gender mainstreaming in the Government, the Administration has set up a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) in all bureaux and departments since 2003. GFPs serve as the resource persons for their respective bureaux and departments, and as liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of officers in their respective organisations. The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) maintains close liaison with the GFPs to see how improvements can be made to gender-related matters, and provide advice and assistance to them where necessary.

To develop a better understanding and awareness of gender-related issues and gender mainstreaming across the civil service, LWB has continued with its on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants with the assistance of GFPs. From 2009-10 to 2011-12, 1 568 civil servants of different grades and ranks attended various gender-related training. These include seminars open to all civil servants organised by Civil Service Training and Development Institute, as well as tailor-made training programmes organised for staff of different bureaux and departments, including the Civil Aid Service, Hongkong Post, Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority, Buildings Department, etc. Gender-related training has also been included as part of the induction training for all newly recruited Administrative Officers and Executive Officers since 2001 and 2010 respectively. In addition, regular gender-related training has been arranged for newly promoted Executive Officers I since 2010. To enable all civil servants to receive gender-related training in a more flexible manner, we have been running an online training programme on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues since 2010.

In 2012-13, LWB will continue to promote the Checklist and the concept of gender mainstreaming to bureaux and departments and provide various gender-related training for civil servants. The resources required for carrying out relevant measures will be absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration stated that it would provide gender-related training to civil servants to facilitate consideration of women's needs and perspectives during formulation and implementation of policies and legislation. Please advise on the expenses, programme outline and number of participants in respect of the gender-related training provided by the Government to civil servants over the past three financial years. Please also provide the expenses of each programme for last year, the estimation as well as the programme content for the coming year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

To develop a better understanding and awareness of gender-related issues and gender mainstreaming across the civil service, Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has continued with its on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants. From 2009-10 to 2011-12, 1 568 civil servants of different grades and ranks attended various gender-related training. These include seminars open to all civil servants organised by Civil Service Training and Development Institute, as well as tailor-made training programmes organised for staff of various bureaux and departments, including the Civil Aid Service, Hongkong Post, Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority, Buildings Department, etc. Gender-related training has also been included as part of the induction training for all newly recruited Administrative Officers and Executive Officers since 2001 and 2010 respectively. In addition, regular gender-related training has been arranged for newly promoted Executive Officers I since 2010. To enable all civil servants to receive gender-related training in a more flexible manner, we have been running an online training programme on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues since 2010.

LWB has also developed a web-portal on gender mainstreaming for reference by all civil servants since 2009. It contains information on gender mainstreaming and its application, as well as hyperlinks to useful websites. It also sets out over 40 examples of different policy or programme areas that have adopted gender mainstreaming. The

web-portal has been uploaded to the website of LWB for public reference. An article introducing the concept of gender mainstreaming was also published in the Civil Service Newsletter in early 2011 for reference by all civil servants.

In 2012-13, we will continue with our efforts to provide various gender-related training for civil servants. The resources required for carrying out relevant measures will be absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The 2011-12 revised provision is 12.9% less than the original estimate. Does this involve any reduction in manpower or resources? If so, what are the details? What items or measures have been cut? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

The revised estimate for Programme (2) Social Welfare is \$32.6 million (12.9%) less than the original estimate. The reasons for the reduction are as follows:

<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Amount</u> (\$ million)
(a) Less than required expenditure for the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients and other on-going initiatives/programmes	14.3
(b) Net savings in departmental expenses and personal emoluments	9.2
(c) Lower than expected expenditure for the financial assistance for family members of those who sacrifice their lives to save others	7.0
(d) Net reduction in cash flow requirements for non-recurrent items	2.1
Total :	<hr/> 32.6

The changes in expenditure do not involve any reduction in manpower or resources.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

While the Administration will continue to raise general awareness and promote early intervention of mental health problems in 2012-13, what publicity campaigns did the Administration organise to raise general awareness of mental health problems in the previous year? What were the number of participants and number of campaigns held?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

The Government is committed to promoting mental health, including early intervention of mental health problems, amongst members of the public.

The Social Welfare Department has set up the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness (ICCMWs) at 24 service points across the territory since October 2010. Operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and provided with professional staff including social workers, occupational therapists and psychiatric nurses, ICCMWs, among other core functions, organise public education programmes to enhance community understanding of mental health. As at the end of December 2011, about 2 700 community mental health education activities with 171 000 participants had been launched through the ICCMWs to enhance the community's awareness of mental health.

The Hospital Authority (HA) has launched the "Child and Adolescent Mental Health Community Support Project" to promote mental health among youngsters and their parents through the schools and community youth centres while the Department of Health (DH) has included mental health in its public health education programme. As at the end of December 2011, about 17 000 members of the public participated in 125 such public education activities organised by HA and about 166 000 participated in that by DH.

In tandem, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), in collaboration with more than 20 government departments, public organisations, NGOs and the media, has been organising annually the "Mental Health Month" since 1995, whereby territory-wide and district-based publicity campaigns, such as television and radio programmes, Announcements in the Public Interest, newspaper supplements and publicity programmes targeting residents in the community, are launched to promote public understanding on mental health and acceptance of persons recovering from mental illness.

In addition, LWB has substantially increased the allocation for the relevant public education activities from around \$2 million to about \$13 million annually since 2009-10 to reinforce efforts in promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Themes of these public education activities include promotion of mental health and full integration of persons recovering from mental illness into the community. In 2011-12, with sponsorship from LWB, 11 such public education campaigns were organised by NGOs and public organisations to promote the general awareness of mental health and community support for persons recovering from mental illness. A total of about 29 600 members of the public participated in the promotion activities of the Mental Health Month and the aforementioned publicity campaigns in 2011-12.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat:
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Bureau will continue to oversee the private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS). In this connection, please advise if the Government will consider providing additional resources and reviewing the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance to further improve the quality of the residential care homes for the elderly (including private homes) in Hong Kong. If yes, what are the details; if no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

The Social Welfare Department (SWD), guided by policies laid down by the Labour and Welfare Bureau, has been reviewing the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) and the Code of Practice for Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) (CoP) issued by the Director of Social Welfare under section 22(1) of Cap. 459 from time to time to see if there is room for improvement and whether revisions are justified. In doing so, we are mindful that the said regulatory framework seeks to ensure that licensed RCHEs provide a safe and hygienic living environment, are properly managed, and have the resources necessary to attend to the residents' care needs. Our reviews over the years have brought about improvements in various aspects. SWD has issued more than 50 circular letters to RCHEs to promulgate new guidelines and is now updating the CoP which is expected to be ready for promulgation by the end of 2012.

In addition, SWD has been implementing various measures to promote service quality of RCHEs. For instance, private RCHEs which can meet enhanced service requirements in terms of staffing and spatial standards are welcome to participate in EBPS and offer their places for purchase by the Government. The enhanced standards apply to the entire home, hence benefiting also the users of non-subsidised places. Among the bought places, there is also a distinction between EA1 and EA2 places. EA1 places are subject to even higher standards, and it is our policy direction to provide more of them. To this end, the Government plans to upgrade about 600 EA2 places to EA1 and purchase an additional 112 EA1 places in 2012-13. The additional recurrent financial implication is \$25.3 million.

At the same time, SWD has been implementing the Pilot Scheme on Visiting Pharmacist Services for RCHEs since 2010 to enhance the drug management capabilities of RCHEs and their staff. SWD also promulgates guidelines for RCHEs on various topics related to the management of RCHEs and elderly care; provides training for RCHE staff to enhance their knowledge and skills in elderly care; works closely with the Department of Health and Hospital Authority in case referrals, etc. All these measures serve to enhance the quality of RCHEs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)042

Question Serial No.

1968

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Labour
and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is stated in the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision that the Administration has increased resources for the territory-wide implementation of the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients. Please inform this Committee of the details, staffing and timetable of this programme.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

The Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients (the Programme) has become a regular and territory-wide programme since the first quarter of 2012. The Programme provides “one-stop” support services for elderly patients discharged from hospitals and their carers (including pre-discharge planning, post-discharge rehabilitation, home support services and carer training), with a view to reducing the chance of unplanned hospital re-admission of these elderly hospital discharges and relieving the stress of their carers.

The estimated full-year expenditure for the Programme in 2012-13 is about \$152.5 million. The breakdown by expenditure item is as follows:

Item	Estimated full-year expenditure (\$ million)
Discharge planning services	81.0
Home support services	71.5
Total	152.5

Funding for the Programme is allocated to the Hospital Authority (HA) and 15 participating hospitals in its seven clusters. The estimated funding allocation in 2012-13 is as follows:

HA cluster	Funding allocation (\$ million)
Hong Kong East	18.6
Hong Kong West	11.8
Kowloon Central	15.6
Kowloon East	23.3
Kowloon West	40.0
New Territories East	23.3
New Territories West	18.0
HA Headquarters	1.9
Total	152.5

Taking into account the actual circumstances of individual districts, the hospitals and non-governmental organisations commissioned by HA will recruit staff (including doctors, nurses, therapists, social workers and care workers, etc.) to meet the service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG

	Permanent Secretary
Post Title	for Labour and Welfare

Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

As noted, the Administration is confident that the \$2 public transport concessions for seniors will be introduced in the second half of 2012. Has the Administration earmarked funds for introducing this measure? If yes, what is the amount of funds earmarked and what is the work plan? If not, when will the work be carried out?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with the preparatory work for the public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme). The negotiation with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements of the Scheme is in full swing. We have also started the preparatory work on amending the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. The estimated expenditure can only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised. Our aim is to finalise all arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the Scheme as soon as possible in the second half of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)044

Question Serial No.

3003

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13 that the Administration will “oversee the implementation of the enhanced planning mechanism made by the Social Welfare Advisory Committee in its study report on long-term social welfare planning”. What are the objectives of overseeing it and the progress achieved? Will the Administration re-introduce the five-year planning for social welfare?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

The Administration commissioned the Social Welfare Advisory Committee (SWAC) to conduct a study on the long-term development and planning of social welfare in Hong Kong to ensure that social welfare policies and services in Hong Kong could provide timely and effective response to the changing welfare needs of society.

SWAC submitted a report entitled “Long-term Social Welfare Planning in Hong Kong” to the Labour and Welfare Bureau in 2011. The Administration is following up SWAC’s recommendations.

In view of the rapidly changing social and economic environment in Hong Kong and increasing complexity of social problems, the “Five-Year plan” mechanism lacked flexibility in terms of target-setting for, and monitoring of, service provision. It was unable to respond to our welfare needs in a timely manner and was discontinued in 1999. A more flexible approach to social welfare planning has been adopted by the Administration, such that timely and practicable responses to the latest social circumstances and welfare needs can be made according to available resources.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

As in previous years, for Programme (3), apart from the estimated provisions and annual growth rates the substances under other sub-headings are more or less the same, in particular the "Matters Requiring Special Attention". The content of this year is exactly the same as that of last year.

The increase of 16.3% in this year's estimated provision under this Programme is used mainly to support the work of the Women's Commission (WoC). I always support the Government in promoting the interests of women, especially the implementation of gender mainstreaming in various bureaux and departments. However, I also support prudent spending of public money and good progress of work. In this connection, will the Secretary advise this Committee of the following –

- (a) The WoC revised and enhanced the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist) in late 2009. Since its revision, how many bureaux and departments have never used the Checklist?
- (b) Does the Bureau require the Gender Focal Points (GFPs) at various bureaux and departments to submit a progress report stating, inter alia, the number of policies, legislation, facilities and services of the departments concerned that have been reviewed using the Checklist during the year? How many of them have been revised as a result? If no revision is needed, what are the reasons?
- (c) Given that the implementation is voluntary, does the Bureau have any indicators to serve as a timeframe for bureaux and departments to use the Checklist to review their policies, legislation, measures and services?
- (d) Does the Bureau have any annual target to serve as yardsticks so as to measure the progress of implementation of gender mainstreaming for this Committee and the public to hold the relevant departments accountable?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

- (a) With the assistance of WoC, the Administration has been implementing gender mainstreaming since 2002. WoC developed the Checklist, an analytical tool to assist government officers in incorporating gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes in a systematic manner, so that women and men can have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. Taking into account comments received from stakeholders as well as the practical experience gained in applying the Checklist over the years, WoC revised and enhanced the Checklist in late 2009.

Since the Checklist was revised, it has been applied to 13 policy or programme areas including the 2011 Village Representative Election, development of gender-specific risks and needs programme for women offenders, the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, 2011 Population Census, Travel Characteristic Survey 2011, enhanced support services for ethnic minorities and new arrivals, etc.

In addition to the application of the Checklist, bureaux and departments have also applied the concept of gender mainstreaming to their daily work, including the provision of first aid services to the public, vocational training for prisoners, and the compilation of sex-disaggregated statistics, etc.

- (b) To facilitate promotion of gender mainstreaming in the Government, the Administration has set up a network of GFPs in all bureaux and departments since 2003. GFPs serve as the resource persons for their respective bureaux and departments and as liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of officers in their respective organisations. The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) maintains close liaison with the GFPs to see how improvements can be made to gender-related matters and provide advice and assistance to them where necessary.
- (c) & (d) To facilitate the implementation of gender mainstreaming and incorporate it as an integral part of the policy formulation and service delivery process, we consider it crucial to first develop a better understanding and awareness of gender-related issues across the civil service. To this end, LWB has continued with its on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants. Over 5 600 civil servants of different grades and ranks have so far attended various gender-related training. These include seminars open to all civil servants organised by Civil Service Training and Development Institute, as well as tailor-made training programmes organised for staff of different bureaux and departments such as the Civil Aid Service, Hongkong Post, Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority and Buildings Department, etc. Gender-related training has also been included as part of the induction training for all newly recruited Administrative Officers and Executive

Officers since 2001 and 2010 respectively. In addition, regular gender-related training has been arranged for newly promoted Executive Officers I since 2010. To enable all civil servants to receive gender-related training in a more flexible manner, we have been running an online training programme on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues since 2010. LWB will continue to work closely with WoC in promoting gender mainstreaming and in advancing the interests and well-being of women.

Signature	
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund, please inform this Committee:

- (a) the number of applications received, the number of projects and the amount of provisions approved so far, and the proportion of rejected applications (with reasons);
- (b) the number of applications submitted by social enterprises, the number of social enterprises' projects and the amount of provisions approved so far, the districts involved and the ways in which the Administration supports the development of these social enterprises.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

- (a) As at end-February 2012, the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (the Fund) has received a total of 1 041 applications, of which 254 (24%) and 787 applications (76%) were approved and rejected respectively. The total amount of approved allocation is about \$240 million. The Fund, with clear objectives and positioning, aims to build social capital in Hong Kong. When assessing applications, the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund Committee will accord priority to their effectiveness in terms of promotion of cross-sectoral collaboration and sustainable development of social capital. Projects involving one-off activities and those lacking long-lasting impact would not be supported.
- (b) The Fund was set up in 2002 to promote social capital development through encouraging mutual support in the neighbourhood, community participation and cross-sectoral partnership. It is not an initiative to foster the development of social enterprises (SEs). As such, we do not have the number of SEs projects funded under the Fund.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat:
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the study on the long-term planning for subsidised welfare services for the elderly, would the Administration inform this Committee of :

- (a) the operational details (including the progress, timetable and target completion date) and the manpower and expenditure involved; and
- (b) the measures that would be put in place to ensure that views of the service users are also taken heed of?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

To cater for the long-term care needs of our ageing population, the Elderly Commission commissioned the University of Hong Kong (HKU) to conduct a consultancy study on residential care services for the elderly (RCS study) in 2008, and a further study on community care services (CCS study) in 2010. Both studies had been completed and were presented to the Panel on Welfare Services of the Legislative Council in January 2010 and July 2011 respectively. The RCS study costed about \$1.3 million and the CCS study \$1.4 million. Manpower expenses related to the studies were absorbed with the provision of the Labour and Welfare Bureau.

Service users are key stakeholders of elderly care services. For each of the consultancy studies, HKU had conducted a questionnaire survey to gauge the views of existing and potential service users as well as other stakeholders. The RCS study surveyed over 3 500 elders and the soon-to-be-old, and the CCS study surveyed about 2 500 elders and their carers. They provided valuable input for service analysis and policy formulation.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

On what date will the Government launch the \$2 fare concession for the elderly?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with the preparatory work for the public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme). Our aim is to finalise all arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the scheme as soon as possible in the second half of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Which local women's groups and service agencies were invited to participate in meetings and exchanges conducted by the Administration in 2011-12? What were the issues discussed and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

To enhance mutual understanding and foster a closer partnership with local women's groups and relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), together with the Women's Commission (WoC), regularly meets with these organisations to exchange views on issues of concern to women. In 2011-12, LWB supported WoC in arranging six exchange sessions with women's groups and related NGOs. Issues discussed included future development of WoC's Capacity Building Mileage Programme to encourage women to pursue life-long learning and self-development, support services to ethnic minority women, compilation of sex disaggregated data, women's leadership training, and survey findings on the status of women, etc.

To facilitate our communication with the stakeholders, LWB and WoC maintain a contact list of women's groups as well as organisations or agencies providing services to women or with an interest in women matters. Invitations to meetings, exchange sessions, seminars and conferences are sent to the organisations on the contact list. To ensure that our contact list is up-to-date, we keep a close watch on the establishment of new women's groups or women-related organisations and establish contact with them.

The resources required for carrying out the above programmes are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

With which local women's groups and service agencies will the Administration hold meetings and exchanges in 2012-13? Will their views be adopted? Also, which relevant international fora will the Administration participate in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

To enhance mutual understanding and foster a closer partnership with local women's groups and relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), together with the Women's Commission (WoC), regularly meets with these organisations to exchange views on issues of concern to women. To facilitate our communication with the stakeholders, LWB and WoC maintain a contact list of women's groups as well as organisations or agencies providing services to women or with an interest in women matters. Invitations to meetings, exchange sessions, seminars and conferences are sent to the organisations on the contact list. To ensure that our contact list is up-to-date, we keep a close watch on the establishment of new women's groups or women-related organisations and establish contact with them. In 2012-13, LWB and WoC will continue to arrange exchange sessions and meetings with women's groups and relevant NGOs, and take into account their views and suggestions in taking forward WoC's work as appropriate.

In 2012-13, the Administration and WoC will continue to field representatives to participate in key regional and international fora, for instance, the annual session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. We will also maintain close liaison with relevant regional and international bodies on women's matters.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)051

Question Serial No.

3103

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

What sort of new services will be promoted by the Administration in 2012-13? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

In 2012-13, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) will assist the Women's Commission (WoC) in expanding the Capacity Building Mileage Programme by introducing new courses in English and Putonghua, with a view to helping ethnic minority and new arrival women to build self-confidence and manage practical issues in their daily lives. The estimated expenditure in 2012-13 is around \$8 million. In addition, the Social Welfare Department will set up three new Integrated Family Service Centres to strengthen support services for needy families, including specific target groups such as single parents, new arrivals, ethnic minorities and cross boundary families. The estimated additional expenditure in 2012-13 is about \$30 million. The Administration will continue to work with WoC to keep under review policies and services related to women, and to promote the development of new or improved services as appropriate.

Signature

Name in block letters

PAUL TANG

Post Title

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

Date

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In what ways will the Administration facilitate participation of the public and non-governmental organisations in the work of the Elderly Commission (EC)? What strategies and incentives will be adopted to enhance their participation? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The EC is mainly tasked to advise the Government on the formulation of a comprehensive policy for the elderly. Its current composition includes members from the health care, social welfare, elderly services, professional and academic sectors, etc. The diversified membership enables views from different sectors to be represented, and helps ensure that proposals of and activities organised by the EC, such as those promoting active ageing and lifelong learning in recent years, meet the needs and expectations of the elderly.

Furthermore, EC members participate from time to time in activities and meetings organised by elderly interest groups and service providers, through which these parties' views and concerns are gathered at first hand.

The EC also has effective channels to keep the public and stakeholders abreast of its operation and decisions. The EC's meeting agenda and minutes are uploaded onto its website. A media briefing will normally be held and a media summary issued immediately after each meeting to explain the matters discussed. Members of the public are welcome to give comments and suggestions on the EC's work through the above website.

EC members are non-remunerated. Expenditures involved in providing secretariat support, organising activities, conducting research studies, etc., are borne by the Labour and Welfare Bureau.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

How will the Administration enhance women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies? What are the strategies adopted and incentives offered by the Administration to enhance women's participation in the above bodies? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau has been working closely with the Women's Commission (WoC) and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the subject policy bureau for matters relating to advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs), to further promote women's participation in ASBs. A proactive approach has been taken to achieve the target, including –

- (a) requiring all submissions making recommendations for appointments to ASBs to include a paragraph on gender consideration;
- (b) encouraging bureaux and departments to reach out, identify and nurture women who are able and willing to contribute to the work of ASBs; and
- (c) increasing the number of female candidates in the Central Personality Index maintained by HAB.

These measures will continue in 2012-13. The Administration will keep reminding bureaux and departments of the importance of further enhancing women's participation in ASBs under their respective purview. The Administration will also continue to work with WoC to keep track of the progress in promoting women's participation in ASBs, expand the pool of women leaders available for appointments through initiatives to empower women, and encourage more women from professional bodies, women's groups, non-governmental organisations, etc. to participate in ASBs.

The resources required for carrying out the above measures will be absorbed within the existing provisions of concerned bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

On public education and publicity programmes, what strategy will the Administration employ to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues? How much resources will be allocated for the publicity work?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

Over the years, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been working closely with the Women's Commission (WoC) in organising various publicity and public education programmes to reduce gender prejudice and stereotype in society and raise public awareness of gender-related issues. These include organising forums and seminars, publishing press articles on newspapers and WoC's website, producing Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, as well as organising various types of competitions and celebration events for the International Women's Day (IWD) on 8 March every year.

In 2011-12, LWB assisted WoC in producing a series of TV drama and 5-minuter on the different situations of women in Hong Kong. A premiere of the TV series was also organised in March 2011 to celebrate IWD and the 10th anniversary of WoC. We also published a report on the key findings of a WoC survey entitled "What do Women and Men in Hong Kong Think about the Status of Women at Home, Work and in Social Environments", and a booklet on "Hong Kong Women in Figures 2011" to enhance public understanding of the situation of women in Hong Kong.

In 2012-13, LWB will assist WoC in enhancing the accessibility of the WoC website, producing a new corporate video and a new leaflet to help publicise the work of WoC in advancing the interests and well-being of women. We will also arrange a roving exhibition on services for women provided by different women's groups and non-governmental organisations. Our on-going efforts in organising various publicity and public education programmes on gender-related issues will also be continued.

The resources required for carrying out the above programmes will be absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

What initiatives were taken by the Women's Commission in 2011-12 to promote the interests and well-being of women? What were the resources involved? What kind of support will the Women's Commission provide for the women in need in 2012-13? How to empower the women? What is the relevant expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been collaborating with the Women's Commission (WoC) to promote the interests and well-being of women through a three-pronged strategy, viz. the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women and public education. To provide an enabling environment for women, the Administration has been implementing gender mainstreaming in various policy and programme areas since 2002. In this respect, WoC developed a Gender Mainstreaming Checklist in 2002 and revised it in late 2009 to enable Government officers to apply gender mainstreaming in a systematic manner. In 2011-12, the Checklist was applied to the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, 2011 Population Census, Travel Characteristic Survey 2011, and enhanced support services for ethnic minorities and new arrivals. In 2012-13, LWB will continue to promote the Checklist and the concept of gender mainstreaming to bureaux and departments.

In 2011-12, LWB continued to assist WoC in conducting the fourth round of district visits. Feedbacks from the District Councils (DCs) were positive, with clear undertaking to support worthy projects conducive to women's development and well-being in their respective districts where appropriate. Tsuen Wan, Sai Kung, Kwun Tong, Southern, Wong Tai Sin, Yau Tsim Mong, Yuen Long and Shatin DCs have organised activities with women focus in the districts. Such collaborative efforts with DCs will continue in 2012-13.

To empower women and to enable them to pursue life-long learning and self-development, we have continued with our on-going efforts to support WoC in

implementing the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP). Up to November 2011, the cumulative number of enrolment for CBMP exceeded 53 000, not to mention the large network of audience reached through the radio programmes. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by the Open University of Hong Kong in 2011, it was estimated that about 1.4 million people had listened to the CBMP radio programmes so far. Feedback from the students indicated that they benefited from CBMP in terms of increased interests in learning, enhanced confidence and knowledge in resolving problems in daily life, and sharpened communication skills which help improve their interpersonal relationships in the family and employment contexts. Starting from 2012-13, the Administration will provide an annual funding of around \$8 million to turn CBMP into a recurrent project.

Enhancing women's participation in decision making in public affairs is also an effective means to empower women. To this end, the Administration has been working closely with WoC in promoting women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs). On the advice of WoC, the Administration raised the gender benchmark target for participation in ASBs from 25% to 30% with effect from June 2010. In July 2010, WoC wrote to women's associations and professional organisations inviting their female members to provide their curricula vitae to the Central Personality Index maintained by the Administration. As at the end of 2011, 31% of the appointed members of the ASBs were women. The Administration will continue to work with WoC to encourage more women to participate in ASBs, and keep in view the need to adjust the gender benchmark as appropriate.

On public education, LWB has been supporting WoC in organising various programmes and activities seeking to reduce gender prejudice and stereotype in society and raise public awareness of gender-related issues. These include organising forums and seminars, producing Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, as well as organising various types of competitions and celebration events for the International Women's Day (IWD) on 8 March every year. In 2011-12, LWB assisted WoC in producing a series of TV drama and 5-minuter on the different situations of women in Hong Kong. A premiere of the television series was also organised in March 2011 to celebrate IWD and the 10th anniversary of WoC. We will continue with our on-going efforts in organising public education and publicity programmes to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues.

The resources required for implementing the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB as well as relevant bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

With regard to the study on the long-term development planning for social welfare in Hong Kong, would the Administration advise of –

- (a) the work details (including the progress, timetable and target completion date), the manpower and the expenditure involved; and
- (b) the measures to be taken to ensure the views of service users will be adopted?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

- (a) and (b) In view of the rapidly changing social and economic environment in Hong Kong and increasing complexity of social problems, the Administration commissioned the Social Welfare Advisory Committee (SWAC) to conduct a study on the long-term development and planning of social welfare in Hong Kong to ensure that social welfare policies and services in Hong Kong could provide timely and effective response to the changing welfare needs of society. In preparing the report, SWAC made use of a wide variety of communication channels to collect views and launched two rounds of consultation with the welfare sector in 2008 and 2010 respectively to invite stakeholders and the community to express their views.

SWAC submitted a report entitled “Long-term Social Welfare Planning in Hong Kong” to the Labour and Welfare Bureau in 2011. The Administration is following up SWAC’s recommendations.

The expenditure and manpower involved in overseeing the implementation of the enhanced planning mechanism will be absorbed within the existing resources.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the policy to empower women and enable them to participate more fully in the community, please provide information on the current female participation rate in advisory and statutory bodies.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau has been working closely with the Women's Commission (WoC) and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the subject policy bureau for matters relating to advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs), to further promote women's participation in ASBs. Taking into account the advice of WoC, HAB set a gender benchmark of 25% in 2004 as an initial working target for appointment to ASBs. To further encourage women's participation in ASBs, and also on the advice of WoC, the gender benchmark was raised from 25% to 30% with effect from June 2010. In July 2010, WoC issued letters to women's associations and professional organisations inviting their female members to provide their curricula vitae for inclusion in the Central Personality Index maintained by HAB with a view to enhancing women's participation in ASBs. As at the end of 2011, 31% of the appointed members were female. The Administration will continue to work with WoC and other stakeholders to enhance women's participation in ASBs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Labour
and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In paragraph 144 of last year's Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary said that \$148 million had been earmarked for the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients (the Programme) so that its coverage could be extended from the current three districts to all districts. It is mentioned in Programme (2) under the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision that an increase of \$105.1 million (47.6%) in provision is mainly due to additional provision for the Programme. Will the Administration inform this Committee on how the above additional provision will be used in detail, including (a) estimated expenditures of the expenditure items (pre-discharge planning service, home support services and other expenses), and (b) amount of allocation in each district?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

- (a) The estimated full-year expenditure for the Programme in 2012-13 is about \$152.5 million. The breakdown by expenditure item is as follows:

Item	Estimated full-year expenditure (\$ million)
Discharge planning services	81.0
Home support services	71.5
Total	152.5

- (b) Funding for the Programme is allocated to the Hospital Authority (HA) and 15 participating hospitals in its seven clusters. The estimated funding allocation in 2012-13 is as follows:

HA cluster	Funding allocation (\$ million)
Hong Kong East	18.6
Hong Kong West	11.8
Kowloon Central	15.6
Kowloon East	23.3
Kowloon West	40.0
New Territories East	23.3
New Territories West	18.0
HA Headquarters	1.9
Total	152.5

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG

	Permanent Secretary
Post Title	for Labour and Welfare

Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13 that the Bureau will “formulate the implementation details of and launch the public transport concession scheme for the elderly and eligible persons with disabilities”. Please advise on the details of the scheme, including the implementation timeframes and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

In 2011-12 Policy Address, the Chief Executive proposed a public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme) to enable all elderly people aged 65 or above and eligible persons with disabilities to travel on the general Mass Transit Railway lines, franchised buses and ferries anytime at a concessionary fare of \$2 a trip. The Scheme aims to encourage the elderly and eligible persons with disabilities to participate in more community activities, thereby enriching social capital and developing a spirit of care and inclusiveness. The basic principle of the Scheme is that while the public operators concerned will be requested to continue to absorb the cost of the existing concessions that they voluntarily offer to the elderly and persons with disabilities, the Government will provide additional resources for offering a concessionary fare of \$2 per trip. The Administration will periodically reimburse the public transport operators concerned the revenue forgone arising from the implementation of Scheme on an accountable basis.

The Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with various preparatory work. The negotiation with the public transport operators and the Octopus Cards Limited on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements of the Scheme is in full swing. We have also started the preparatory work on amending the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. Our aim is to finalise all the arrangements for the Scheme and implementation details in the first half of this year, and to launch the Scheme as soon as possible in the second half

of the year upon completion of the upgrading and testing of the Octopus systems of the public transport operators concerned.

The estimated expenditure will only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

As stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13, the Bureau will “continue to oversee the implementation of the Child Development Fund projects, and consider the long-term development of the Fund”. Would the Administration provide this Committee with –

- (a) specific details of the work carried out under the above item of work and the expenditures involved for carrying out the related activities and projects in the past year;
- (b) details of the proposed work plan and estimated expenditures for the coming year;
- (c) an explanation of the difference arising from the absence in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12 of the sentence “... consider the long-term development of the Fund”, which is included in the Matters Requiring Special Attention for this year.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

- (a) Since the establishment of the Child Development Fund (CDF) in December 2008, 40 projects have been rolled out in three batches. All these projects are in good progress. More than 4 400 children have been recruited to the projects.

The expenditure of the CDF in 2011-12 is \$21.157 million. Expenditures include the cost of training programmes for the participating children and their mentors and parents, special financial incentive of \$3,000 for each child who has completed his savings programme, administrative cost for the non-governmental organisations which operate the projects, and the

consultancy fee for a longitudinal study to evaluate the effectiveness of the first batch pioneer projects.

- (b) & (c) In 2012-13, we will continue to monitor the progress of the CDF projects, and the provision is \$34.802 million. To evaluate the effectiveness of the first batch pioneer projects, we commissioned a longitudinal study in December 2008. The study is on-going and is expected to be completed by mid-2012. Taking into account the results and recommendations of the study and having regard to the practical experience in implementing the projects, we will consider the long-term model of CDF for promoting child development in Hong Kong.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13 that the Bureau will formulate the implementation details of the public transport concession scheme for the elderly and eligible persons with disabilities. Please provide the details of expenditure, as well as the allocation for expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau as well as Transport Department have been pressing full steam ahead with the preparatory work for the public transport concessions scheme for the elderly and persons with disabilities (the Scheme). The negotiation with the public transport operators concerned and the Octopus Cards Limited on the detailed *modus operandi* and arrangements of the Scheme is in full swing. We have also started the preparatory work on amending the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. The estimated expenditure and manpower requirement can only be confirmed when the detailed arrangements of the Scheme are finalised.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

What is the progress of the Child Development Fund (CDF) projects? How many children are benefited? Will short-term or medium-term evaluation report be compiled? When will it be presented?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

Since the establishment of CDF in December 2008, 40 projects have been rolled out in three batches. All these projects are in good progress. More than 4 400 children have been recruited to the projects.

We have commissioned a longitudinal study to evaluate the effectiveness of the first batch pioneer projects. The study is on-going and expected to be completed by mid-2012. Taking into account the results and recommendations of the study and having regard to the practical experience in implementing the projects, we will consider the long-term model of CDF for promoting child development in Hong Kong.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the post of Under Secretary, the Administration has not conducted any recruitment in the past two years. Has this adversely affected the work of the Secretary? If not, can there be a proposal for not including this post in the permanent post in the review in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The Under Secretary will be responsible principally for assisting the Secretary in undertaking the full range of political work, including the handling of Legislative Council business, and deputising for the Secretary during the latter's temporary absence. With the appointment of a suitable candidate, the post of Under Secretary can provide further support to the work of the Secretary.

The new-term Chief Executive to be elected on 25 March will have the opportunity to propose changes that he/she considers appropriate or necessary to the political appointment system and the Government structure. The current-term Government will do its best to facilitate such changes, if any, as necessary to ensure a smooth transition between the current-term and the fourth-term of the HKSAR Government.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Labour
and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The increase in the provision for 2012-13 is due to the additional funding for the implementation of the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients. How will this funding be allocated? What is the estimated number of beneficiaries? Will there be any interim or regular reviews on the effectiveness of the Programme?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients (the Programme) has become a regular and territory-wide programme since the first quarter of 2012. The Programme is expected to benefit some 33 000 elders each year.

The estimated full-year expenditure for the Programme in 2012-13 is about \$152.5 million. The breakdown by expenditure item is as follows:

Item	Estimated full-year expenditure (\$ million)
Discharge planning services	81.0
Home support services	71.5
Total	152.5

Funding for the Programme is allocated to the Hospital Authority (HA) and 15 participating hospitals in its seven clusters. The estimated funding allocation in 2012-13 is as follows:

HA cluster	Funding allocation (\$ million)
Hong Kong East	18.6
Hong Kong West	11.8
Kowloon Central	15.6
Kowloon East	23.3
Kowloon West	40.0
New Territories East	23.3
New Territories West	18.0
HA Headquarters	1.9
Total	152.5

The Government, jointly with HA, will closely monitor the relevant statistics (such as the number of elderly patients to be provided with discharge planning and home care support services, the average duration of service and the number of attendees for the carer training programme) on a regular basis to ensure that the objectives of the Programme, which are to reduce unplanned hospital re-admission of elderly hospital discharges and relieve the stress of the carers, are met.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
	Permanent Secretary
Post Title	for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Attention in 2012-13 that the Bureau will oversee the implementation of the long-term social welfare planning by the Social Welfare Advisory Committee (SWAC). Please advise how the supervision will be conducted. Are there any criteria in place to provide direction for conducting interim reviews or making adjustments?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

In view of the rapidly changing social and economic environment in Hong Kong and increasing complexity of social problems, the Administration commissioned SWAC to conduct a study on the long-term development and planning of social welfare in Hong Kong to ensure that social welfare policies and services in Hong Kong could provide timely and effective response to the changing welfare needs of society.

SWAC submitted a report entitled “Long-term Social Welfare Planning in Hong Kong” to the Labour and Welfare Bureau in 2011. The Administration is following up SWAC’s recommendations.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13 that the Bureau will promote the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with the rehabilitation sector, the community at large and the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee. Please advise on the promotion work that has been done and will be done by the Bureau.

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

It has all along been the objectives of the Government's rehabilitation policy to help persons with disabilities develop their abilities and to create a barrier-free environment with a view to ensuring that they can participate in full and enjoy equal opportunities both in terms of their social life and personal growth. These are in line with the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ("the Convention").

On the policy front, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been urging all government bureaux and departments to critically review the policies and measures under their purview and take appropriate measures to ensure compliance with the Convention where necessary. LWB will continue to organise on-going training and promotion activities for civil servants at all levels with a view to ensuring that all government bureaux and departments are fully aware of the need to take into due consideration the provisions of the Convention in formulating policies and implementing measures.

In respect of public education, to tie in with the implementation of the Convention in Hong Kong, LWB has from 2009-10 onwards substantially increased the annual allocation for relevant public education activities from about \$2 million in the past years to about \$13 million, so as to enhance public understanding of the rights and needs of persons with disabilities. LWB, in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee (RAC), has been making proactive efforts in mobilising cross-sectoral

collaboration towards building an equal and inclusive society through launching territory-wide public education activities, including TV and radio programmes, docudrama, publicity programmes targeting youths and students, and roving exhibitions, etc. LWB has also increased funding for subsidising the District Councils (DCs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), public organisations, local organisations and self-help groups of persons with disabilities for organising public education activities in the local communities. In 2011-12, apart from provision of subsidies to 18 DCs for holding relevant public education activities, LWB subsidised various NGOs and other organisations in organising 48 publicity programmes under the theme: “All-round promotion of the spirit of the Convention and cross-sectoral collaboration towards building an equal and inclusive society” in order to spread the message of barrier-free and inclusiveness to the community at large.

As an on-going public education initiative, LWB continues to earmark about \$13 million in 2012-13 for organising territory-wide and local public education activities to promote a barrier-free and inclusive society as well as the spirit and core values enshrined in the Convention in collaboration with the RAC, the Equal Opportunities Commission, groups of persons with disabilities and other sectors in the community.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Concerning the aim of adhering to the relevant international conventions and agreements on women's matters, what work has been done in the past? What indicators or standards are used by the Bureau to assess the implementation?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The Administration is committed to the advancement of the interests and well-being of women in Hong Kong, and to discharging its obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA). The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), together with relevant bureaux and departments, have put in place various policies and measures to fulfil the objectives under CEDAW and BPfA.

In 2011-12, the Administration completed the preparation for the third report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) under CEDAW. The report provided details on the progress of the HKSAR on the implementation of CEDAW since the last report submitted in 2004. To prepare for the report, LWB conducted a public consultation on the subjects and topics to be covered in the report. Views from stakeholders, including the Legislative Council, relevant non-governmental organisations and women's groups, have been incorporated into relevant sections of the report as appropriate. The report was submitted to the United Nations in January 2012 as part of the combined seventh and eighth report of the People's Republic of China.

In addition, on-going efforts have been made to enhance public understanding and awareness of CEDAW and BPfA. These include organising conferences, seminars and roving exhibitions in public libraries, district community centres and government premises, etc. LWB has also supported a series of community activities organised by local women's groups to enhance public understanding of CEDAW.

In 2012-13, the Administration will continue with its efforts to implement its obligations under CEDAW and BPfA as well as enhance public awareness and understanding of them.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In the past, the Government mainly focused on the promotion of “gender mainstreaming concept” within the Government. What effects have been achieved? Has the Government considered further promoting the concept beyond Government departments?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

With the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), the Administration has been implementing gender mainstreaming since 2002. WoC developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officers in incorporating gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes in a systematic manner, so that women and men can have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. Taking into account comments received from stakeholders as well as the practical experience gained in applying the Checklist over the years, WoC revised and enhanced the Checklist in late 2009.

The Administration has applied the Checklist to over 40 specific policy or programme areas. These include the provision of public toilets, promotion of breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, the 2011 Village Representative Election, and development of gender-specific risks and needs programme for women offenders, etc. In 2011-12, the Checklist was applied to the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, 2011 Population Census, Travel Characteristic Survey 2011, and enhanced support services for ethnic minorities and new arrivals.

In addition to the application of the Checklist, bureaux and departments have also applied the concept of gender mainstreaming to their daily work, including the provision of first aid services to the public, vocational training for prisoners, and the compilation of sex-disaggregated statistics, etc.

To facilitate promotion of gender mainstreaming in the Government, the Administration has set up a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) in all bureaux and departments since 2003. GFPs serve as the resource persons for their respective bureaux and departments, and as liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of officers in their respective organisations. The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) maintains close liaison with the GFPs to see how improvements can be made to gender-related matters, and provide advice and assistance to them where necessary.

In addition, LWB assisted WoC in establishing a GFP network in District Councils (DCs) in late 2008. Each of the 18 DCs has now designated a Member as GFP to facilitate communication and collaboration between DCs and WoC, including matters related to the implementation of gender mainstreaming. LWB also works closely with WoC in organising various publicity and public education programmes to promote gender mainstreaming and raise public awareness of gender-related issues.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The increase in provision for 2012-13 is used mainly to support the work of the Women's Commission. What kind of work is it? What is the breakdown of the amount?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The provision for 2012-13 has been increased by around \$4 million comparing to the revised estimate for 2011-12. The increase in provision is mainly due to the anticipated increase in expenses for undertaking enhanced initiatives by the Women's Commission (WoC). In 2012-13, we will enhance our support to the work of WoC, including launching a funding scheme to support women's groups to organise programmes that facilitate women's development, organising conferences and seminars to exchange views with stakeholders on issues of common concern to women, as well as organising public education and publicity programmes, and producing various publications. These initiatives aim to foster a closer partnership between WoC and its stakeholders as well as to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (5) Subvention: Skills Centres

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

- (a) The provision for 2012-13 is lower than the revised estimate for 2011-12. Is the decrease attributed to, apart from the reduced provision for capital expenditure, the lack of new training places or new courses? If yes, how does the Labour and Welfare Bureau assess whether the skills centres effectively train students with disabilities?
- (b) The Bureau indicates that the overall performance of the skills centres in the 2011-12 year is satisfactory. What are the achievements of the skills centres?
- (c) Do the skills centres provide any post-training job-matching schemes for the trainees? If yes, what is the number of successful cases? If no, how do the skills centres design training courses to enhance the employment opportunities of leaving trainees?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

- (a) The reduced provision for Skills Centres in 2012-13, as compared with the revised estimate for 2011-12, is mainly due to the reduced requirement for capital expenditure as provision for refurbishment of the Pokfulam Skills Centre in 2011-12 is no longer required for 2012-13. On the number of training places, it will be increased from 960 (560 full-time and 400 part-time) in 2011-12 to 1 000 (600 full-time and 400 part-time) in 2012-13.
- (b) The Skills Centres provide vocational training programmes and services for persons with disabilities to enhance their employability and facilitate their integration into society. Of the 960 training places in 2011-12, the estimated enrolment rate is about 87%. To meet market demands, two new courses were launched in 2011-12, namely “Business, Computer and Housekeeping Practices Course” and “Health and Beauty Care Assistant Course”. Both courses were well-received by trainees as well as the welfare and business sectors. Practical

training on social-enterprise mode has also been launched on a pilot basis to provide trainees with real-life workplace experience to enhance their employability. Favourable feedbacks from trainees, parents and employers were received. They considered that the programmes helped develop trainees' communication skills, self-confidence, work skills and positive work attitude. The provisional findings of the employment survey in 2011 revealed that about 80% of the economically active graduates had already secured employment.

- (c) The Skills Centres provide trainees with placement services which include sourcing career opportunities for them and providing follow-up career support services to help graduates better settle in their workplace and retain their jobs. In the past three years, the placement rates of the economically active graduates ranged from 82% to 83%. To ensure that the training provided meets the needs of the trainees and market demands, the Skills Centres regularly review their training programmes and develop new ones in consultation with the industries and the Committee on Vocational Training for People with Disabilities of the Vocational Training Council comprising representatives from various sectors of the community.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)072

Question Serial No.

2818

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (6) Subvention: Guardianship Board and Environmental Advisory
Service

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Please explain the decrease in provision for Environmental Advisory Service in 2012-13 over last year's revised estimate. Will it result in less support given to persons with disabilities?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

Provision for 2012-13 under Programme (6) Subvention: Guardianship Board and Environmental Advisory Service is \$0.7 million lower than the revised estimate for 2011-12. This is mainly due to the reduced requirement for the Guardianship Board in 2012-13 as payment of end-of-contract gratuity for the secretariat staff made in 2011-12 will not be required in 2012-13. Provision for subvention to Environmental Advisory Service for 2012-13 will remain at the same level as that in the revised estimate for 2011-12 (\$1.571 million) and support services for persons with disabilities under this programme will not be affected.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Of the employment complaints received over the past three years (i.e. 2009, 2010 and 2011), how many involved disabilities discrimination? Please provide a breakdown of the cases by industry and complaint type. How many cases were substantiated? In 2012-13, will the Administration plan to allocate more resources for conducting a review of the existing policy on disabilities discrimination and what kind of placement services will be provided to persons with disabilities?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The Disability Discrimination Ordinance (DDO) provides persons with disabilities the legal safeguard for equal opportunities and protects them against discrimination, harassment and vilification in employment and other areas. The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is responsible for enforcing the DDO, including handling complaints. Over the past three years (2009 to 2011), the employment-related complaint cases handled by the EOC under DDO are as follows:

Year	Breakdown of employment-related complaint cases received			Employment-related complaint cases concluded	Outcome of concluded cases		
					Discontinued	Conciliation successful	Conciliation not successful
2009	Disability discrimination	33	36	381	259	70	52
	Victimization	7					
	Harassment	3					
2010	Disability discrimination	28	32	332	225	78	29
	Victimization	3					
	Harassment	39					
	Vilification	2					
2011	Disability	26	29	333	238	59	36

1	discrimination	6	7				
	Victimization	4					
	Harassment	27					
			99 0	1046	722	207	117

- Note: 1. There are various reasons for discontinuance of cases, such as lacking in substance, the complainant has no desire to pursue, etc.
2. The EOC does not keep breakdowns of the figures by trades.
3. The EOC maintains an impartial role in its function of conciliating complaints among relevant parties, and does not make judgments as to whether a case being conciliated is substantiated.

The EOC is also vested with the authority under the DDO to issue codes of practice to provide recommendations for good procedures and practices. Following public consultation and passage by the Legislative Council, a revised Code of Practice on Employment under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Code) was issued in July 2011 for reference by employees and employers. The Code elaborates on the application of DDO in the employment context and sets out employment guidelines on the proper handling of recruitment, disability related workplace absence and dismissal. Practical guidance on how DDO may apply in specific situations and employees' rights under the legislation, etc. are provided to ensure that the principle of equal opportunities would be upheld in employment. The EOC will, as part of its statutory duties, continue to keep in view the applicability of the Code to present day circumstances.

Apart from the legal protection, the Government also provides a wide range of employment support and vocational training services for persons with disabilities so as to equip them with job skills that meet market requirements and to assist them in securing suitable employment commensurate with their abilities. In this connection, the Labour Department (LD) provides free and personalised placement services, including employment counseling, job matching and referrals, to jobseekers with disabilities who are fit for open employment. LD also administers the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme which encourages employers to provide work trial opportunities and support to job seekers with disabilities through the provision of financial incentives. LD will continue to actively approach employers of various industries to promote the working capacity of persons with disabilities and to canvass more suitable vacancies for them.

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) also provides vocational rehabilitation training and employment support services for persons with disabilities. In 2001-02, SWD was provided with a one-off allocation of \$50 million to introduce the "Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project" ("3E's Project"). Through granting seed money to non-governmental organisations for the setting up of small enterprises, the 3E's Project creates job opportunities for persons with disabilities. As at December 2011, 70 businesses had been set up under the 3E's Project, creating over 550 jobs specifically for persons with disabilities. In order to create more job opportunities for persons with disabilities, we have obtained the approval of the Legislative Council Finance Committee and will soon inject \$100 million into the 3E's Project. The Government will also enhance the support for the small enterprises under the 3E's Project, for example, to extend the funding period from a maximum of two years to three years.

Furthermore, in 2012-13, SWD has earmarked an annual recurrent provision of \$8 million to provide subsidies to employers of persons with disabilities for procuring assistive devices and carrying out workplace modification works, thereby enabling persons with disabilities to work more efficiently and facilitating them to secure open employment. We estimate that 400 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme. In addition, through providing a mentorship award as financial incentive, we aim to encourage employers to render workplace guidance to employees with disabilities and help them adapt to new jobs. Each mentor will be offered a one-off award of \$500 as encouragement. We estimate that 2 700 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Please provide specific details of the work of the Task Force on Poverty (TFP) in 2011. What are the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply :

After the Commission on Poverty (CoP) concluded its work in 2007, the Government set up the TFP, headed by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare, to follow up CoP's recommendations and coordinate the Government's efforts in alleviating poverty.

In 2011-12, the TFP continued to monitor the progress of the Government in implementing the recommendations of CoP. Most of the recommendations made by CoP have been or are being implemented, including establishing the \$300 million Child Development Fund (CDF) and rolling out three batches of projects; strengthening training and retraining to enhance the skills and competitiveness of young people as well as the middle-aged and low-income earners; and setting up an "Employment in One-stop" service centre to streamline and integrate the employment services provided by the Labour Department, the Social Welfare Department and the Employees Retraining Board.

Insofar as the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) is concerned, a Poverty Team provides secretariat support to TFP and is also responsible for overseeing/implementing certain initiatives on poverty alleviation under LWB (e.g. CDF, short-term food assistance, etc.). The provision for the Poverty Team in 2011-12 was \$3.49 million and is \$3.64 million in 2012-13. The amounts cover the cost of five staff comprising two Administrative Officers, one Executive Officer and two secretarial and clerical support staff. Various bureaux and departments represented in the TFP have also deployed suitable manpower and resources to this cause as part of their portfolios.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)075

Question Serial No.

2005

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration states that it will oversee the implementation of the enhanced planning mechanism made by the Social Welfare Advisory Committee (SWAC) in its study report on long-term social welfare planning. Please advise on the details of the plan, the expenditure involved and manpower required.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply :

In view of the rapidly changing social and economic environment in Hong Kong and increasing complexity of social problems, the Administration commissioned SWAC to conduct a study on the long-term development and planning of social welfare in Hong Kong to ensure that social welfare policies and services in Hong Kong could provide timely and effective response to the changing welfare needs of society.

SWAC submitted a report entitled “Long-term Social Welfare Planning in Hong Kong” to the Labour and Welfare Bureau in 2011. The Administration is following up SWAC’s recommendations.

The expenditure and manpower involved in overseeing the implementation of the enhanced planning mechanism will be absorbed within existing resources.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration has pointed out that it will continue to assist in the development and monitoring of measures designed to promote the self-reliance, accessibility and employment opportunities of persons with disabilities. Please advise this Committee of the details of this programme, the effectiveness of the past measures, as well as the estimated expenditure of various programmes.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply :

The objective of rehabilitation policy aims to promote the development of the capabilities of persons with disabilities and their full integration into the community. To this end, we strive to promote the employment for persons with disabilities and to build a barrier-free society.

To promote the employment for persons with disabilities, we provide a wide range of employment support and vocational training services for persons with disabilities so as to equip them with job skills that meet market requirements and assist them in securing suitable employment commensurate with their abilities. These services include selective placement services provided by the Labour Department to assist persons with disabilities in securing open employment; vocational rehabilitation training provided by the Social Welfare Department and the Vocational Training Council Shine Skills Centres; and re-training programmes provided by the Employees Retraining Board. We will also continue to enhance public understanding of the working abilities of persons with disabilities through public education activities. To step up the efforts in creating job opportunities for persons with disabilities, we have obtained the approval of the Legislative Council Finance Committee and will soon inject \$100 million into the “Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project” (“3E’s Project”). Through granting seed money to non-governmental organisations for the setting up of small enterprises, the 3E’s Project creates jobs for persons with disabilities. Furthermore, in 2012-13, SWD has earmarked an annual recurrent provision of \$8 million to provide subsidies to employers of persons with disabilities

for procuring assistive devices and carrying out workplace modification works, thereby enabling persons with disabilities to work more efficiently and facilitating them to secure open employment. In addition, through providing a mentorship award as financial incentive, we aim to encourage employers to render workplace guidance to employees with disabilities and help them adapt to new jobs. Each mentor will be offered a one-off award of \$500 as encouragement.

To build a barrier-free society, the Government will accelerate the upgrading of the barrier-free facilities in existing Government and Housing Authority premises and facilities. We have allocated about \$1.3 billion for taking forward a comprehensive retrofitting programme to upgrade the barrier-free facilities in about 3 700 existing Government premises and facilities and about 300 properties under the Housing Authority. Among them, around 3 300 premises and facilities will have retrofitting works completed by June 2012. Furthermore, with effect from April 2011, individual bureaux and departments have designated an Access Co-ordinator to facilitate the coordination of accessibility issues within the bureaux/departments. An Access Officer (AO) has also been appointed for each venue/facility to handle accessibility issues at the venue. The AOs will, amongst other duties, offer suitable assistance to persons with disabilities in access to the venue and using the services and facilities therein, and handle public enquiries/complaints regarding accessibility issues for the venue. Besides, the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee has, since 2003, adopted “Working towards an inclusive and barrier-free society for persons with disabilities” as one of the main themes for its annual public education programmes. Through the publicity efforts, we aim to promote to the public the importance of “barrier-free environment” for persons with disabilities and other persons in need, thereby encouraging them to provide and enhance barrier-free access in their premises.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has reserved \$2.9 million for filling the position of Under Secretary. The LWB has been reserving such a provision in the past 3 years but there was no appointment of Under Secretary, what are the reasons? Why does the Administration still set aside such a provision this year?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply :

The consistent position of the Government is that, if there is a suitable candidate, the post of Under Secretary will be filled.

The next-term Chief Executive may propose changes that he/she considers appropriate or necessary to the political appointment system and the Government structure. The current-term Government will do its best to facilitate such changes, if any, as necessary to ensure a smooth transition between the current-term and the fourth-term of the HKSAR Government. In this regard, we consider it appropriate to make temporary provision for the position of Under Secretary in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

5.3.2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in paragraph 184 of the Budget Speech, the Administration will set up three more youth outreaching teams, one each in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung. Please provide the information in the following table –

	Manpower of the outreaching team (number of social workers and the total manpower)	Responsible social welfare organisation	Service commencement date	Major services provided	Estimated number of people served
Tseung Kwan O					
Ma On Shan					
Tung Chung					

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will commission non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate three additional youth outreaching teams in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung through invitation of proposals. The selection of NGO operators will be based on detailed quality assessment of the proposals. The three additional youth outreaching teams are expected to commence service in the latter half of 2012-13. Major services to be provided include reaching out, counselling, group activities or programmes, and referral of youths at risk to other mainstream services as appropriate. The manpower of individual teams, service design and the estimated number of people served will be subject to the proposals of the selected NGO operators.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)079

Question Serial No.

1003

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” under this Programme that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to develop the new computer system to replace the existing Computerised Social Security System (CSSS). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the latest progress of the above work and its completion date?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : The replacement project of the CSSS is currently undergoing system analysis and design, to be followed by development of the new computer system in three phases. The target completion date of Phase 1 (i.e. live run of the new computer system) is August 2013, while those for Phase 2 (i.e. enhancement of management information system) and Phase 3 (i.e. provision of e-services) are November 2013 and February 2014 respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)080

Question Serial No.

1004

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Social Welfare Department will make preparation for a new “Guangdong (GD) Scheme” under the Social Security Allowance Scheme. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the latest progress of the above work? Apart from GD Scheme, would the Administration study the feasibility of implementing the similar programmes outside GD?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : The Administration is drawing up the details of the GD Scheme and aims at developing more concrete plans in the first half of 2012, and endeavours to launch the Scheme around mid-2013. Allowing Hong Kong elderly people who choose to move to GD to receive Old Age Allowance under the GD Scheme is based on four special considerations. First, currently Hong Kong elderly people settled on the Mainland mostly live in GD. Secondly, there are unique and close ties between GD and Hong Kong in geographical, economic and social terms. Thirdly, given the Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Framework and with a number of major cross-boundary transport infrastructure projects coming on stream, travelling between the two places will be more convenient and they will become more closely integrated. Lastly, Hong Kong elderly people who have moved to GD can still maintain close contact with their relatives and friends here and obtain family support easily. At this stage, the Administration is of the view that only GD has the suitable conditions for implementing such a scheme.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to implement the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Services for Frail Elders (the Scheme). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the latest progress of the work? When will the Administration report the interim progress to the Legislative Council?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : The Scheme aims to provide a new package of home care services for elders waiting for nursing home places so as to better serve their special needs and help relieve the pressure on their carers, thereby encouraging elders to age in place. Three service teams under the Scheme have been providing services to frail elders in Wong Tai Sin, Sai Kung, Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim Mong, Kowloon City and Sham Shui Po districts since March 2011. The total expenditure for this Pilot Scheme is about \$55 million, which is covered by the Lotteries Fund. The Scheme will serve at least 510 cases in the said districts over the three-year period. As at the end of January 2012, a total of 385 elders had received services. A steering committee has been set up to give strategic advice and oversee its implementation. SWD plans to report progress of the Scheme to the Legislative Council in 2013.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in paragraph 57 of the Budget Speech that the Administration will “enhance elderly care”. According to the information provided by the Administration in the past, around 4 000 elders passed away while waitlisting for subsidised residential care places each year in Hong Kong. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of additional subsidised residential care places to be provided in 2012-13? What is the current number of elders waitlisting for subsidised residential care places? What is the waitlisting situation? Can the available resources thoroughly address the existing problem of insufficient subsidised residential care places? If not, what plan does the Administration have to tackle the problem?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : The number of additional subsidised residential care places which are expected to commence service in 2012-13 is 1 219.

As at the end of December 2011, the number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised residential care services (RCS) and the average waiting time were as follows –

Type of subsidised RCS places	Number of applicants on the waiting list	Average Waiting Time ^[Note 1] (months)
Care-and-attention (C&A) places in subvented/contract homes	21 283 ^[Note 2]	34
C&A places under Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)		8
Nursing Home (NH) places ^[Note 3]	6 575	37

[Note 1] Average waiting time for admitted cases in the past three months. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

[Note 2] Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or EBPS homes. The Social Welfare Department only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole.

[Note 3] Including subsidised NH places provided by subvented NHs, self-financing NHs under the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme and contract homes.

We will continue to increase the provision of subsidised RCS places to meet the demand.

It has to be noted that elders waiting for subsidised RCS places can also receive community care services, including home-based and centre-based services. We will enhance the community care services to the elders waiting for subsidised RCS places to help them age at home.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding care for persons with disabilities, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the numbers of people waitlisting for subsidised residential care places in hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons (HSMHs), hostels for severely physically handicapped persons (HSPHs) and care-and-attention homes for severely disabled persons (C&A/SDs) at present? What is the waitlisting situation? Are the existing resources sufficient to cater for the people currently on the waiting lists? If not, what plan does the Administration have to tackle the problem?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : The requested information is as follows –

Type of service	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2011)
HSMH	2 015
HSPH	396
C&A/SD	369

To meet the growing demand for the services, the Administration has identified suitable premises/sites for provision of about 627 additional places of various types of residential care services for persons with disabilities in 2012-13. We will continue to proactively seek for other suitable premises/sites for provision of residential care services to meet service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to implement the licensing scheme under the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance. Please inform this Committee of the details of the allocation and the staffing establishment for the related work in 2012-13, as well as the anticipated outcome.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : The Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for Persons with Disabilities (the Licensing Office) was set up in SWD on 18 November 2011 to implement the licensing scheme for residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) upon commencement of the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance.

The Licensing Office carries out statutory duties related to administration of the licensing scheme for RCHDs. These include processing applications for issue of a licence or certificate of exemption, inspection and monitoring of RCHDs in compliance with the licensing requirements, handling non-compliant operators, handling public enquiries and complaints, registration of health workers, etc. It also administers the implementation of the related complementary measures, including the Financial Assistance Scheme and the pilot Bought Place Scheme for private RCHDs.

The Licensing Office is currently staffed by 15 civil service posts including social workers, nurses and professional staff from the Fire Services Department and Buildings Department.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)085

Question Serial No.

1009

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will provide additional subsidised and non-subsidised residential care places for the elderly by setting up new contract homes. Please inform this Committee of the details of the funding allocation and staffing establishment for the related work in 2012-13, as well as the anticipated outcome.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : In 2012-13, SWD will award contract for one new contract home located in Sai Ying Pun with 56 subsidised and 37 non-subsidised residential care places. The estimated expenditure of this contract home is \$8.4 million per annum. The operator has to comply with the staffing requirements committed in the contract signed with SWD by employing sufficient staff including nurses, care workers, other professional and non-professional staff for the delivery of services. Admission to this contract home will commence as soon as the fitting out works is completed, which is expected to be in mid-2013.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)086

Question Serial No.

2599

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the “Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance” (the Ordinance) which came in force in 2010, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of cases received, types and natures of cases, number of individuals approached for assistance, number of law enforcement actions taken, number of cases resulting in prosecution and results of these actions?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : Since the Ordinance came into effect on 1 January 2010, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has handled 6 096 new child abuse and spouse / cohabitant battering cases. A breakdown of the nature of such cases from January 2010 to December 2011 was as follows –

Case Nature	No. of New Cases
New child abuse cases	1 595
New spouse/cohabitant battering cases	4 388
New child abuse and spouse/cohabitant battering cases	113
Total	6 096

SWD does not capture the number of individuals approached for assistance, law enforcement actions and prosecutions taken in relation to these cases.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)087

Question Serial No.

3023

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is noted that the Administration will inject \$100 million into the Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprises Project (the Project) and the funding period will be extended from two years to three years. The Project also provides subsidy to non-governmental organisations for provision of barrier-free facilities with the funding ceiling of \$20,000. What is the estimated number of organisations and the estimated number of applications for provision of barrier-free facilities in the next two years? How long will be the injected fund last? What is the target number of organisations benefited from the Project?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : The Administration will implement a series of employment support measures to enhance employment of persons with disabilities, including, inter alia, injection of \$100 million into the Project to directly create employment opportunities for persons with disabilities; and providing subsidy to employers for procurement of assistive rehabilitation device and workplace modifications to facilitate employees with disabilities to enhance their work efficiency. For the latter initiative, an annual recurrent allocation of \$8 million has been earmarked from 2012-13 onwards. We estimate that around 400 employees with disabilities would benefit from this scheme each year.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out on yearly basis the number of applications received from organisations for expansion of the approved business, content of the items and grants involved since the implementation of the Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project (the Project) in 2001. What are the factors to be considered by the Administration in allocation of the estimated expenditure in approving the request?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply : Under the Project, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides non-governmental organisations with a maximum funding support of \$2 million per business to meet the set-up capital cost for equipment, fitting-out works, etc. and operating expenses incurred in the initial two years of business operation. SWD has not received any application for expansion of the approved business.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)089

Question Serial No.

3177

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) stated that it would provide training for non-professional and professional staff serving demented elders. Whether additional support will be provided for carers of demented elders under this plan? What are the relevant details? What is the expenditure involved?

(b) Whether SWD will consider subsidising demented elders and carers in need to apply for the training programmes and care services for demented elders offered by non-governmental organisations? If yes, what are the details? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : (a) In 2012-13, SWD will provide 180 and 300 training places respectively for professional and non-professional staff serving demented elders. The training programmes will cover understanding and managing the medical, psychological and care needs of the demented elders, common assessment tools, therapeutic approaches, legal issues relating to the care of the demented elders as well as support services for the carers. The estimated expenditure for the training programmes is \$0.33 million.

(b) Apart from offering training programmes for non-professional and professional staff serving demented elders, SWD has been providing additional support to carers of the demented elders through the launch of the District-based Scheme on Carer Training (the Scheme) in elderly centres since October 2007. Carer training programmes to enhance carers' capability in taking care of the elders have been organised in 119 elderly centres which participate in the Scheme and over 8 400 carers have been trained up. The total allocation for the Scheme was about \$6 million.

Support services to carers of elders are also provided by various types of residential care services, respite care, as well as community care and

support services for the elderly. These include, among others, provision of information, training and counselling services, assistance in forming carers' mutual help groups, setting up resources centres and loan of rehabilitation equipment, etc.

To enhance the support for demented elders in subvented residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), private RCHEs under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme and subsidised day care centres or units (DEs/DCUs), an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS). The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million. With the allocation of DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the number of aged blind who are currently residing in subvented care-and-attention homes for the aged blind (C&A/ABs)? How many elders are waitlisting for places in C&A/AB at present? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : As at the end of December 2011, the Social Welfare Department provided a total of 825 C&A/AB places for the aged blind while 90 applicants were waitlisting for the service. The estimated expenditure for the service is about \$111 million in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)091

Question Serial No.

3181

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) to be set up in 2012-13, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the locations of the new IFSCs?
- (b) When will the construction works be completed? When will the IFSCs commence operation?
- (c) What are the expenditures involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : The locations of the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected growth and profile of the population, etc. Suitable premises will be identified for the new IFSCs which will commence operation by end-2012-13. The estimated expenditure for the three new IFSCs is around \$30 million per annum in total.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)092

Question Serial No.

3182

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department has regularised the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) and extended its coverage to all 18 districts in 2011. What are the numbers of cases served before and after the regularisation? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : During the implementation of the pilot NSCCP from 2008-09 to September 2011, the average number of children served per month was 525. Upon the regularisation and extension of NSCCP to 18 districts in October 2011, the average number of children served per month increased to 631 between October and December 2011. The estimated recurrent provision for NSCCP in 2012-13 is \$36.3 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)093

Question Serial No.

3183

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department will plan for a pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly in 2012-13. Please inform this Committee of the details of the scheme and its estimated expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : The Administration consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the preliminary proposal of the pilot scheme on community care service (CCS) voucher for the elderly (the scheme) on 13 February 2012. The scheme will adopt a new funding mode, whereby the Administration provides subsidy directly to the service users instead of the service providers. To fully test the funding mode, the scheme will last for four years and be implemented in two phases. Elders who have been assessed to have impairment at moderate level or above may participate in the scheme. They may choose the service provider, the type of service and the service package which best suit their needs. For the first phase of the scheme, we will target elders who have impairment at moderate level. A co-payment and means-test mechanism will be introduced and a single voucher value at \$5,000 per month is proposed, with Government subsidy ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,500. The scheme will be launched in selected districts. Selection of districts will be based on the district profile as well as the readiness of service providers to provide the services. For the first phase, we will invite non-governmental organisations and non-profit organisations (including social enterprises) to participate as they are more experienced in the provision of CCS to elders.

The estimated expenditure required for the scheme will be determined at a later stage. We will seek one-off funding support from the Lotteries Fund for the scheme and continue with the preparatory work, such as drawing up the implementation details, consulting stakeholders and developing information technology infrastructure, with a view to launching the first phase of the scheme in 2013-14.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)094

Question Serial No.

3184

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will upgrade the physical setting and facilities of elderly centres. Please provide information on the following –

- (a) What are the details of the improvement works?
- (b) What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : SWD will seek funding of \$900 million from the Lotteries Fund with a view to improving the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 elderly centres, i.e. 41 district elderly community centres, 118 neighbourhood elderly centres, 51 social centres for the elderly and 40 self-financing centres for the elderly. We will implement the improvement programme in phases over six years starting from 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) stated that it would strengthen the care for demented elders in day care centres/units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) as well as the care for the infirm and demented elders in residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) in 2012-13. Please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the specific implementation details?
- (b) Will there be any expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : (a) Dementia Supplement (DS) is an additional resources to enhance the support for demented elders in subvented RCHEs, private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and subsidised DEs/DCUs. SWD will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in EBPS and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

With the allocation of DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary.

- (b) The additional recurrent funding of DS is \$137.2 million. The total recurrent allocation of DS to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs is \$208.4 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated that direct subsidy will be provided by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to employers for procurement of assistive rehabilitation device and workplace modifications; and workplace assistance will be provided to employees with disabilities. Please inform this Committee of the implementation details and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply : To enhance employment support for persons with disabilities, the Administration will take forward the following initiatives starting from 2012-13 –

- (a) providing subsidy to employers for procuring assistive rehabilitation device and carrying out workplace modification works to facilitate employees with disabilities to enhance their work efficiency. An annual allocation of \$8 million has been earmarked for implementation of this initiative. We estimate that around 400 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme each year; and
- (b) providing financial incentive to workplace mentors of employees with disabilities to facilitate the latter to adapt to work smoothly. The mentor rendering workplace assistance to the same employee with disabilities for a period of not less than one month will receive a one-off award of \$500. An annual allocation of \$1.35 million has been earmarked for implementation of this initiative. We estimate that around 2 700 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme each year.

SWD is in the course of formulating the implementation details of the above initiatives.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the Targets under Programme (3) in the 2011-12 Estimates, the Administration planned that there would be 1 954 private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) in 2011-12. However, there was only 1 725 RCHEs participating in EBPS in 2011-12 revised estimate resulting in a reduction of 229 RCHEs participating in EBPS as compared to the original plan. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the reasons for the lower-than-expected number of RCHEs participating in EBPS, and the reasons why the RCHEs participating in EBPS planned by the Administration this year is same as that in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : The figures are related to nursing home (NH) places and not private RCHEs participating in EBPS. The estimated number of NH places in 2011-12 is revised from 1 954 (2011-12 original estimate) to 1 725 (2011-12 revised estimate) owing to factors including the lack of vacant NH places in self-financing NHs and RCHEs, their readiness to participate in the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme (NHPPS), etc. In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department will continue to invite applications from self-financing NHs and RCHEs to provide the remaining 229 NH places under NHPPS.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the upgrading of the quality of subsidised residential care places for the elderly under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS), would the Administration please inform this Committee of how much resources will be allocated in 2012-13 to monitor the implementation of the initiative? What are the specific details of the work? How will the Administration assess and examine the quality-upgrading work of these subsidised residential care places?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply : Under the EBPS, EA1 homes have higher standards in staffing and space requirements than EA2 homes. The Administration plans to provide an additional 112 EA1 places and upgrade about 600 EA2 places to EA1 standard in 2012-13. The estimated provision is \$25.3 million per annum. The Social Welfare Department will invite applications from private residential care homes for the elderly and select suitable homes through a quality-based assessment exercise.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Would the Administration please inform this Committee of how much resources will be allocated to take forward service enhancement of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) in 2012-13 and the specific details of the work?
- (b) How many ICCMWs are there in the territory at present? Will there be any new ICCMWs to be set up in future? If yes, what are the locations of the new ICCMWs, service commencement dates and the resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply : (a) & (b) In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory for the provision of district-based and one-stop community mental health support services. Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management Programme of the Hospital Authority to provide community support services for patients with severe mental illness and more people in need. At present, there is no plan to set up additional ICCMW.

The distribution of the service points is as follows –

District	Number of Service Points
Central & Western, Southern/Islands	3
Eastern/Wan Chai	3
Kwun Tong	1
Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung	3
Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong	2

District	Number of Service Points
Sham Shui Po	1
Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing	3
Sha Tin	2
Tai Po/North	2
Tuen Mun	2
Yuen Long	2
Total	24

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How much resources will the Administration allocate to enhance medical social services for autistic children in 2012-13? Will any change in policy be involved? If yes, please provide the details.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has provided five additional medical social workers in 2011-12 to strengthen psychiatric medical social services for autistic children and their families to dovetail with the new initiatives of the Hospital Authority (HA) in providing early identification, assessment and treatment services for autistic children. SWD will continue to collaborate with HA and government departments concerned in ensuring that appropriate services and resources are provided to meet the needs of the autistic children and their families.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)104

Question Serial No.

0775

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) What are the details and distribution of the additional 50 places in residential homes for children (RHCs) in 2012-13?
- (b) What is the number of children waitlisting for places in RHCs in the past three years? What is the average waiting time for places in RHCs?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply : (a) The additional 50 places will be provided through in-situ expansion of existing RHCs located in accessible locations over the territory. The Administration has reserved \$8.7 million per annum for these additional places in 2012-13.
- (b) The number of waitlisted cases and the average waiting time for admission to RHCs for the past three years are listed below –

	April 2009 - March 2010	April 2010 - March 2011	April 2011 - January 2012
Number of waitlisted cases ^[Note]	536	360	295
Average waiting time for admission (days)	146	99	62

[Note] It refers to the average number of waitlisted cases at the end of each month during the respective period.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)105

Question Serial No.

0776

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to set up three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2012-13. Which districts will these IFSCs be located? Has the Administration secured permanent premises for them? If no, what measures will be introduced to ensure smooth commencement of the services of these IFSCs?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The locations of the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected growth and profile of the population, etc.

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will identify suitable premises for setting up the new IFSCs. Pending availability of suitable premises for the new IFSCs, the operators will use their available or existing premises to deliver the services. SWD has maintained close liaison with the relevant government departments to earmark suitable sites for setting up the new centres.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)106

Question Serial No.

0777

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) The 2012-13 Budget points out that 130 additional places for residential child care services will be provided. Regarding this and the demand for residential care services for children in general, please give the reply in the table below –

Item	Residential crèches and nurseries	Foster care service	Small group home	Children's home	Girls' home	Girls' hostel	Boys' home	Boys' hostel
1. Additional places for residential child care services in 2012-13								
2. Number of waitlisted cases - April 2009 – March 2010 - April 2010 – March 2011 - April 2011 – January 2012								
3. Average waiting time for admission								
4. Enrolment rate								
5. Number of children with special needs admitted to residential homes - Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder - Specific learning disabilities - Autism/Asperger's syndrome - Developmental delay - Depression - Anxiety disorders								
6. Number of children having reunion with birth homes upon case completion - April 2009 – March 2010 - April 2010 – March 2011 - April 2011 – January 2012								

Item	Residential crèches and nurseries	Foster care service	Small group home	Children's home	Girls' home	Girls' hostel	Boys' home	Boys' hostel
7. Cost per place per month								
8. Supervision cases per worker								

- (b) What was the average waiting time and the location preference of children applying for residential care services by region as at the end of January 2012?
- (c) The foster care allowance for foster families will be raised in 2012-13. In this connection, please give a reply to the following –
- What is the amount and percentage of the raised foster care allowance in this year?
 - How was the annual adjustment of the foster care allowance calculated in the past?
 - Will the calculation method for the annual adjustment of the foster care allowance be changed due to the increase in allowance this year?
 - In terms of resource input and strategies, how will the Department increase the number of foster families to cope with service needs?
- (d) According to the statistics of the sector, about 1/5 of the users of residential care services for children are children with special educational needs, such as developmental delay and specific learning disabilities. Does the Department have any plan for reviewing the existing auxiliary services and manpower arrangement, etc., so as to provide timely support?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The requested information on residential child care service is listed below –

Item	Foster care service	Small group home	Residential crèches and nurseries	Children's home	Girls' home ^[Note 1]	Girls' hostel	Boys' home ^[Note 1]	Boys' hostel
1. Additional places in 2012-13	50	0	20 ^[Note 2]		30			
2. Number of waitlisted cases ^[Note 3]								
- April 2009 – March 2010	33	264	10	69	190	46	216	5
- April 2010 – March 2011	35	258	17	57	131	32	119	4
- April 2011 – January 2012	27	337	12	50	73	55	95	10
3. Average waiting time for admission (days) ^[Note 4]	42	103	39	61	91	52	61	85
4. Enrolment rate (as at the end of Dec 2011) (%)	90	94	94	92	83	90	85	90
5. Number of children having reunion with birth homes upon case completion								
- April 2009 – March 2010	11	180	35	72	10 ^[Note 5]	23	60 ^[Note 5]	3
- April 2010 – March 2011	10	167	33	81	9	20	73	0
- April 2011 – January 2012	11	120	30	54	6	12	42	3
6. Cost per place per month ^[Note 6]	\$9,496	\$15,584	\$10,473					

[Note 1] Unless specified, figures relating to girls' and boys' homes include those with or without school on site.

[Note 2] The actual allocation of places depends on district or service demand.

[Note 3] Average number of waitlisted cases as at the end of each month during the respective period.

[Note 4] Average waiting time for admission of all children admitted for residential child care services from April 2011 to January 2012.

[Note 5] Figure excludes girls' and boys' homes with school on site as SWD does not keep the figure.

[Note 6] Calculation based on the 2011-12 revised estimate.

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) does not keep statistics on the number of children with different special needs admitted to various residential homes and the supervision cases per worker.

- (b) The location preference of children applying for the various residential care services as at the end of January 2012 is listed below^[Note 7] –

Region Preference	Foster care service	Small group home	Residential crèches and nurseries	Children's home	Girls' home	Girls' hostel	Boys' home	Boys' hostel
Hong Kong	2	45	32	43	44	14	0	26
East Kowloon	11	182	0	52	0	93	42	0
West Kowloon	10	99	4	0	0	0	12	0
East New Territories	12	65	2	6	0	0	0	0
West New Territories	12	143	0	0	0	0	9	0
No preference	20	53	0	1	1	6	4	0

[Note 7] Applicants may indicate preference for more than one region.

SWD does not keep statistics on the average waiting time for admission by region.

- (c) The amount of foster care allowance after adjustment and the amount and percentage of increase in 2012-13 are as follows –

	Amount after adjustment (\$)	Increase in amount (\$)	Percentage increase (%)
Maintenance grant	3,074	963	31.3
Incentive payment	2,019	485	31.6

In the past, the annual adjustment of the foster care allowance was based on the government-wide price adjustment factor. Subsequent to its increase in 2012-13, the foster care allowance will be adjusted annually in line with inflation to better reflect the expenditure borne by foster families. The increase in foster care allowance in 2012-13 will strengthen the support to needy children and encourage more suitable families to join as foster parents. SWD will continue to monitor the service demands and work closely with the agencies operating foster care services to conduct publicity activities through various mass media and channel of whole coverage to recruit more suitable foster parents.

- (d) SWD has allocated additional resources for service enhancement in the past years. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the service operators have the flexibility in deploying the allocation to arrange suitable staffing and to cope with the operational needs to meet service demands. In addition, to better support foster families taking care of children with special needs, SWD will raise the extra monthly incentive payment for these families by 31.7% to \$1,010 in 2012-13. The coverage of the extra payment will be extended to cover children with attention deficit/ hyperactivity disorder, autism and specific learning difficulties. SWD will continue to work with the concerned non-governmental organisation operators for service improvement.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)107

Question Serial No.

0778

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will provide an additional 130 places in residential care service for children by phases. What are the expenditure involved and the breakdown of the expenditure? Does this expenditure include the expenses in recruiting care staff and improving facilities in the homes?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has reserved \$17.1 million per annum for the additional 130 places. The respective expenditure is \$4.4 million for an additional 50 foster care places, \$8.7 million for an additional 50 places in residential homes for children and \$4.0 million for an additional 30 small group home places. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, service operators have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staff to meet service needs. The operators can also apply for Lotteries Fund to purchase the necessary furniture and equipment to meet operational need.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : At present, what are the amounts of allowance and incentive payment received by foster families per month? What are the details of raising the foster care allowance as stated by the Administration? Did the Social Welfare Department (SWD) adjust the amounts of allowance and incentive payment in the past three years? If yes, please give the details of the amount of annual adjustment. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The existing and revised amounts of maintenance grant for foster children and incentive payment for foster parents per child per month are as follows –

	Existing (for 2011-12)	Revised (for 2012-13)
Maintenance Grant (\$)	3,074	4,037
Incentive Payment (\$)	1,534	2,019

SWD completed the annual adjustment to the amounts of the maintenance grant and incentive payment according to the government-wide price adjustment factor. The adjusted amounts of the maintenance grant and incentive payment in the past three years are listed below –

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Maintenance Grant (\$)	3,013	3,060	3,074
Incentive Payment (\$)	1,504	1,527	1,534

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)109

Question Serial No.

0780

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Among the children provided with residential child care services over the past three years, how many of them were child abuse cases? How many cases in which the children were abused again after the cessation of child care services? Are there any services or procedures currently in place to protect these children from being abused after the cessation of the services? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of abused children admitted to residential child care services were 135 in 2009, 151 in 2010 and 155 in 2011.

The Social Welfare Department has not captured the number of cases which the children were abused again after the cessation of residential child care services. We would consider capturing the number of these cases for service enhancement.

There is a set of “Procedural Guide for Handling Child Abuse Cases” in place to provide reference to professionals and personnels engaged in different disciplines in handling child abuse cases. Social workers will make careful and comprehensive assessment on the suitability of reunion of the child with his/her family. Child care ability of the parent(s) and the child-parent relationship would also be assessed. Counselling and appropriate assistance to the child and his/her family will continue to be provided by the social worker after the family reunion until the risk of child abuse subsides.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)110

Question Serial No.

0787

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Three additional outreaching social work teams (OSWTs) will be set up in 2012-13 to enhance support services for youths at risk. How will they be distributed by district?
- (b) As OSWTs have been established for ten years, what was the number of vehicles used for outreaching service in each of the past three years, and the Government's estimated provision for vehicle maintenance each year?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply : (a) In 2012-13, three additional OSWTs will be set up in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung to reach out to more youths at risk.
- (b) Each of the 18 overnight outreaching teams for young night drifters has been provided with a 7-seater van to facilitate service delivery since commencement of service. There is no change in the number of vehicles for the past three years. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the non-governmental organisations concerned have flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to meet operating costs, including the maintenance cost of vehicles. There is no breakdown for individual items.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Estimate that the caseload per school social worker is 83 while the number of cases closed having achieved the agreed goal per social worker is 28 in 2012-13. What is the basis for arriving at the two figures in the “Indicators”?

How does the Social Welfare Department (SWD) monitor the performance of the enhanced school social work services? What are the rationale behind and the criteria?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The figure 83 is calculated based on the number of active cases brought forward from 2011-12 plus the estimated number of new/ re-activated cases. The figure 28 is calculated by dividing the estimated number of cases closed with the agreed goal achieved by the estimated number of school social workers in 2012-13.

To ensure service quality, including that of school social work services, SWD monitors the service performance of subvented non-governmental organisations (NGOs) through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, SWD assesses and monitors the performance standards of subvented NGOs through their regular reports and SWD’s scheduled and surprise visits to their subvented service units.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13, three additional youth outreaching teams will be set up, one each in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung. Please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) In what format will social welfare organisations be invited to operate these additional teams? What are the determining factors in granting the right of operation?
- (b) How to demarcate the service boundaries between these additional teams and the existing teams?
- (c) When will these additional teams commence operation?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will commission non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate three additional youth outreaching teams through invitation of proposals. The selection of NGO operators will be based on detailed quality assessment of the proposals received by a vetting committee to be set up in SWD.
 - (b) The respective District Social Welfare Officers of SWD will engage the selected NGOs and the existing youth outreaching teams to review service boundaries with a view to achieving service synergy.

- (c) The three additional youth outreaching teams are expected to commence service in the latter half of 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)113

Question Serial No.

0790

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) The Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) will be regularised and extended to 18 districts in the territory by the Administration. Please inform this Committee of the expenditure involved. What is the number of children served? How much are the carers remunerated?
- (b) What are the measures of monitoring the implementation of the regularised NSCCP by the Social Welfare Department (SWD)? At present, what are the service demand and provision of NSCCP?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply : (a) The estimated recurrent provision for NSCCP in 2012-13 is \$36.3 million. From October 2011 to December 2011, NSCCP served a total of 1 894 children. The home-based child carers are volunteers and receive an incentive payment, ranging between \$18 and \$22 per hour.
- (b) The service operators of NSCCP have to comply with the requirements as laid down in the Service Specification, the Service Agreement and their service proposals. They are required to provide regular statistical returns to report the output and outcome to SWD. SWD staff also conduct scheduled/ surprise on-site visits at periodic and irregular intervals.

Upon its regularisation and extension to 18 districts in October 2011, NSCCP provides at least 720 places in total, consisting of 468 home-based child care places and 252 centre-based care group places. The service providers have the flexibility to increase the number of home-based child care places on top of the minimum requirement set in order to meet the service demand. There is no waiting list since the launch of NSCCP. SWD has so far not received any report of needy children unable to receive NSCCP service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)114

Question Serial No.

1289

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients by nature of case, such as “elderly”, “low-earnings”, “single parent”, “unemployment”, who have benefited from the “Disregarded Earnings (DE)” in the past three years, i.e., 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA recipients who benefited from the monthly DE by nature of case in the past three years were as follows –

Case nature	Year ^[Note]		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Old age	2 725	2 844	2 760
Permanent disability	3 209	3 256	3 246
Ill health	2 770	2 758	2 668
Single parent	8 411	8 201	7 659
Low-earnings	14 511	13 528	11 177
Unemployment	6 039	5 858	5 205
Others	241	218	248
Total	37 906	36 663	32 963

^[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the table are compiled based on the data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)115

Question Serial No.

1290

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Please list out, by category of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases (“elderly”, “low-earnings”, “single parent”, “unemployment”), the number of CSSA recipients in each of the past five years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12).
- (b) Please list out the number of CSSA cases having changed to “unemployment” category from other categories, and the number of the recipients involved in each of the past five years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12).
- (c) Please list out the number of CSSA cases having changed to “low-earnings” category from other categories, and the number of the recipients involved in each of the past five years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12).
- (d) Please list out, by category of CSSA cases, the number of cases having left the CSSA net, the number of recipients involved and the reasons for leaving the CSSA net in each of the past five years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The numbers of CSSA recipients by case nature as at the end of December 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively were as follows –

Case nature	Year				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Old age	200 361	197 251	198 500	197 782	196 659
Permanent disability	26 595	26 138	26 564	26 376	25 945
Ill health	45 304	43 549	44 160	43 295	41 962
Single parent	93 062	88 829	88 923	84 644	79 984
Low-earnings	60 071	53 343	52 446	48 318	40 552
Unemployment	62 284	57 195	60 830	54 392	47 368
Others	9 245	9 320	10 578	11 199	10 852
Total	496 922	475 625	482 001	466 006	443 322

(b) The numbers of CSSA unemployment cases which were originally classified as “other categories”, and the numbers of recipients involved, in the past five years were as follows –

Table 1: Of the 32 893 unemployment cases involving 62 284 recipients as at the end of December 2007, 3 770 cases involving 8 684 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2006.

Case nature as at the end of December 2006	Number of unemployment cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2007	Number of recipients involved
Old age	378	913
Permanent disability	202	311
Ill health	1 080	1 780
Single parent	890	2 048
Low-earnings	946	3 086
Others	274	546
Total	3 770	8 684

Table 2: Of the 31 772 unemployment cases involving 57 195 recipients as at the end of December 2008, 3 798 cases involving 9 012 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2007.

Case nature as at the end of December 2007	Number of unemployment cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2008	Number of recipients involved
Old age	394	923
Permanent disability	213	342
Ill health	1 016	1 668
Single parent	1 001	2 292
Low-earnings	966	3 366
Others	208	421
Total	3 798	9 012

Table 3: Of the 33 279 unemployment cases involving 60 830 recipients as at the end of December 2009, 3 941 cases involving 9 420 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2008.

Case nature as at the end of December 2008	Number of unemployment cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2009	Number of recipients involved
Old age	437	1 044
Permanent disability	190	326
Ill health	949	1 667
Single parent	1 106	2 489
Low-earnings	999	3 387
Others	260	507
Total	3 941	9 420

Table 4: Of the 29 813 unemployment cases involving 54 392 recipients as at the end of December 2010, 3 533 cases involving 8 137 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2009.

Case nature as at the end of December 2009	Number of unemployment cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2010	Number of recipients involved
Old age	437	1 016
Permanent disability	196	362
Ill health	886	1 481
Single parent	994	2 167
Low-earnings	787	2 657
Others	233	454
Total	3 533	8 137

Table 5: Of the 26 859 unemployment cases involving 47 368 recipients as at the end of December 2011, 3 051 cases involving 6 848 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2010.

Case nature as at the end of December 2010	Number of unemployment cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2011	Number of recipients involved
Old age	355	777
Permanent disability	165	275
Ill health	769	1 192
Single parent	822	1 771
Low-earnings	743	2 415
Others	197	418
Total	3 051	6 848

- (c) The numbers of CSSA low-earnings cases which were originally classified as “other categories”, and the numbers of recipients involved, in the past five years were as follows –

Table 1: Of the 17 221 low-earnings cases involving 60 071 recipients as at the end of December 2007, 3 358 cases involving 11 133 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2006.

Case nature as at the end of December 2006	Number of low-earnings cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2007	Number of recipients involved
Old age	436	1 450
Permanent disability	76	256
Ill health	226	776
Single parent	449	1 306
Unemployment	2 072	7 018
Others	99	327
Total	3 358	11 133

Table 2: Of the 16 080 low-earnings cases involving 53 343 recipients as at the end of December 2008, 2 677 cases involving 8 607 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2007.

Case nature as at the end of December 2007	Number of low-earnings cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2008	Number of recipients involved
Old age	419	1 363
Permanent disability	53	152
Ill health	245	839
Single parent	407	1 039
Unemployment	1 456	4 937
Others	97	277
Total	2 677	8 607

Table 3: Of the 15 633 low-earnings cases involving 52 446 recipients as at the end of December 2009, 2 492 cases involving 8 125 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2008.

Case nature as at the end of December 2008	Number of low-earnings cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2009	Number of recipients involved
Old age	432	1 423
Permanent disability	65	222
Ill health	214	747
Single parent	422	1 096
Unemployment	1 273	4 354
Others	86	283
Total	2 492	8 125

Table 4: Of the 14 407 low-earnings cases involving 48 318 recipients as at the end of December 2010, 2 507 cases involving 7 993 recipients were originally classified as “other categories” as at the end of December 2009.

Case nature as at the end of December 2009	Number of low-earnings cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2010	Number of recipients involved
Old age	382	1 205
Permanent disability	69	243
Ill health	218	733
Single parent	414	1 034
Unemployment	1 312	4 457
Others	112	321
Total	2 507	7 993

Table 5: Of the 12 319 low-earnings cases involving 40 552 recipients as at the end of December 2011, 1 887 cases involving 5 929 recipients were originally classified under “other categories” as at the end of December 2010.

Case nature as at the end of December 2010	Number of low-earnings cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2011	Number of recipients involved
Old age	347	1 076
Permanent disability	54	154
Ill health	213	695
Single parent	283	736
Unemployment	899	3 001
Others	91	267
Total	1 887	5 929

(d) The numbers of CSSA cases closed by case nature and closure reason in the past five years were as follows –

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed during the financial year 2007-08 [Note]						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	128	10 768	251	194	2 082	178	13 601
Permanent disability	2	248	72	117	794	94	1 327
Ill health	11	440	103	394	1 676	169	2 793
Single parent	11	8	128	508	3 882	85	4 622
Low-earnings	7	7	102	313	3 398	31	3 858
Unemployment	56	147	335	2 420	5 236	362	8 556
Others	8	7	17	251	750	155	1 188
Total	223	11 625	1 008	4 197	17 818	1 074	35 945

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed during the financial year 2008-09 [Note]						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	102	11 366	270	162	2 122	239	14 261
Permanent disability	6	265	74	81	688	94	1 208
Ill health	24	466	90	349	1 487	218	2 634
Single parent	18	11	101	403	3 162	115	3 810
Low-earnings	12	7	70	215	2 844	89	3 237
Unemployment	74	170	261	1 713	3 594	408	6 220
Others	7	13	30	192	738	130	1 110
Total	243	12 298	896	3 115	14 635	1 293	32 480

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed during the financial year 2009-10 [Note]						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	70	11 222	250	156	2 003	220	13 921
Permanent disability	6	275	97	72	677	82	1 209
Ill health	9	502	88	286	1 357	198	2 440
Single parent	15	10	90	376	2 876	83	3 450
Low-earnings	4	5	69	199	2 306	57	2 640
Unemployment	19	159	266	1 839	3 751	450	6 484
Others	5	17	40	278	802	114	1 256
Total	128	12 190	900	3 206	13 772	1 204	31 400

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed during the financial year 2010-11 [Note]						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	81	11 268	281	233	2 090	156	14 109
Permanent disability	4	268	86	89	687	77	1 211
Ill health	10	500	94	300	1 458	186	2 548
Single parent	9	11	97	447	3 122	73	3 759
Low-earnings	3	6	81	256	2 591	29	2 966
Unemployment	20	134	253	1 807	4 085	420	6 719
Others	1	11	24	315	891	156	1 398
Total	128	12 198	916	3 447	14 924	1 097	32 710

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed during the financial year 2011-12 ^[Note] (up to the end of January 2012)						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	44	8 678	220	171	2 147	157	11 417
Permanent disability	0	187	56	61	639	70	1 013
Ill health	5	373	67	210	1 330	137	2 122
Single parent	6	9	82	272	2 729	52	3 150
Low-earnings	1	5	75	139	2 398	40	2 658
Unemployment	15	112	210	1 147	3 297	285	5 066
Others	1	11	16	239	770	140	1 177
Total	72	9 375	726	2 239	13 310	881	26 603

[Note] Except for 2011-12, the numbers of cases presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

We do not keep information on the number of recipients involved in cases closed.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)116

Question Serial No.

1291

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) Please provide the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases under the “unemployment” category and the numbers of recipients with breakdowns by the number of household members, family composition (whether there were members aged 65 or above, aged below 15 or having resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years), their gender, education level, age distribution, number of years of receiving CSSA, nature of job, working hours, wages as well as types of accommodation over the past five years (i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12).

(b) Please provide the numbers of CSSA cases under the “low-earnings” category and the numbers of recipients with breakdowns by the numbers of household members, family composition (whether there were members aged 65 or above, aged below 15 or having resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years), their gender, education level, age distribution, number of years of receiving CSSA, nature of job, working hours, wages as well as types of accommodation over the past five years (i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) Statistics on CSSA unemployment cases with breakdown by selected profiles from 2007-08 to 2011-12 were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 2] _

Table 1 : Numbers of unemployment cases by number of eligible members

Number of eligible members	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1	12 741	13 685	14 351	13 330	12 305
2	2 969	3 106	3 393	3 181	2 827
3	3 678	3 751	4 015	3 689	3 218
4	3 764	3 573	3 543	3 036	2 660

Number of eligible members	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
5	1 803	1 716	1 576	1 299	1 129
6 and above	920	782	669	545	453
Total	25 875	26 613	27 547	25 080	22 592

Table 2 : Numbers of unemployment cases by combination of household member(s) (whether with recipient(s) aged 65 or above, aged below 15 or new arrival(s) who had resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years (NA7))

Combinations of member(s)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
With one or more recipients of any age being NA7	2 286	1 913	1 620	1 312	1 108
Without any recipient being NA7 and with at least one elderly recipient aged 65 or above	1 091	1 097	1 184	1 098	967
Without any recipient being NA7 and with at least one child recipient aged below 15 whilst without any elderly recipient aged 65 or above	6 351	6 348	6 399	5 573	4 943
Without any recipient being NA7 and with recipient aged 15-64 only (i.e. no NA7, no child recipient aged below 15 nor elderly recipients aged 65 or above)	16 147	17 255	18 344	17 097	15 574
Total	25 875	26 613	27 547	25 080	22 592

Table 3 : Numbers of unemployment cases by duration of stay on CSSA

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1 or less	4 099	5 626	5 794	4 003	3 145
More than 1 - 2	3 035	2 601	3 709	3 474	2 463
More than 2 - 3	2 538	2 376	2 108	2 687	2 744
More than 3 - 4	2 409	2 093	1 964	1 618	1 855
More than 4 - 5	2 860	2 005	1 751	1 553	1 322
More than 5	10 934	11 912	12 221	11 745	11 063
Total	25 875	26 613	27 547	25 080	22 592

Table 4 : Numbers of unemployment cases by type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Public housing ^[Note 3]	17 047	17 130	17 564	15 941	14 240
Private housing	7 658	8 062	8 542	7 765	7 046
Institutions	302	404	374	355	339
Others ^[Note 4]	868	1 017	1 067	1 019	967
Total	25 875	26 613	27 547	25 080	22 592

Statistics on CSSA recipients in unemployment cases with breakdown by selected profiles from 2007-08 to 2011-12 were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 2] _

Table 5 : Numbers of recipients in unemployment cases by gender

Gender	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Male	32 637	32 807	33 334	29 651	26 118
Female	27 027	26 212	26 167	23 218	20 680
Total	59 664	59 019	59 501	52 869	46 798

Table 6 : Numbers of CSSA recipients in unemployment cases by educational attainment

Educational attainment	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
No schooling/ kindergarten	12 311	11 816	11 470	10 157	9 158
Primary	28 991	27 450	26 546	23 079	20 088
Lower secondary	11 954	12 405	13 114	11 932	10 728
Upper secondary	5 480	6 234	7 070	6 433	5 664
Matriculation or above ^[Note 5]	928	1 114	1 301	1 268	1 160
Total	59 664	59 019	59 501	52 869	46 798

Table 7 : Numbers of CSSA recipients in unemployment cases by age group

Age group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Under 15	14 416	13 943	13 582	11 716	10 482
15 – 59	42 633	42 591	43 286	38 712	34 032
60 or above	2 615	2 485	2 633	2 441	2 284
Total	59 664	59 019	59 501	52 869	46 798

Statistics on CSSA recipients with employment earnings in CSSA unemployment cases with breakdown by selected profiles from 2007-08 to 2011-12 were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 2] _

Table 8 : Numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings in unemployment cases by occupation

Occupation	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Cleaner	801	708	784	696	563
Clerk	189	127	134	146	116
Construction worker/ labourer/decoration worker	463	357	361	293	248
Delivery worker	467	407	489	472	434
Domestic helper/baby sitter	225	210	227	219	210
Driver	177	145	187	171	181
General worker/labourer (other than those of construction)	1 659	1 343	1 604	1 564	1 406
Salesperson	333	278	359	338	296
Waiter/waitress	305	292	338	357	305
Watchman/guard	268	217	217	208	166
Others	1 367	1 161	1 375	1 432	1 311
Total	6 254	5 245	6 075	5 896	5 236

Table 9 : Numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings in unemployment cases by monthly working hours ^[Note 6]

Monthly working hours (hours)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
50 or less	1 356	1 176	1 548	1 598	1 833
50 – less than 100	1 416	1 277	1 488	1 472	1 378
100 – less than 150	1 264	1 107	1 237	1 140	983
150 – less than 200	704	547	642	589	427
200 – less than 250	881	644	675	634	370
250 or above	394	281	302	280	108
Total	6 015	5 032	5 892	5 713	5 099

Table 10 :Numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings in unemployment cases by employment earnings

Employment earnings	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	901	722	907	934	762
\$1,000 – less than \$2,000	1 508	1 310	1 588	1 546	1 415
\$2,000 – less than \$3,000	1 146	1 061	1 160	1 100	930
\$3,000 – less than \$4,000	842	729	819	777	822
\$4,000 – less than \$5,000	615	475	543	477	460
\$5,000 – less than \$6,000	532	384	420	410	246
\$6,000 – less than \$7,000	399	298	311	319	214
\$7,000 – less than \$8,000	173	159	186	176	172
\$8,000 – less than \$9,000	77	64	76	92	129
\$9,000 – less than \$10,000	33	17	30	26	41
\$10,000 or above	28	26	35	39	45
Total	6 254	5 245	6 075	5 896	5 236

(b) Statistics on CSSA low-earnings cases with breakdown by selected profiles from 2007-08 to 2011-12 were as follows ^[Notes 1& 2] _

Table 1 : Numbers of CSSA low-earnings cases by number of eligible members

Number of eligible members	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1	419	424	507	511	311
2	1 521	1 441	1 588	1 612	1 323
3	3 877	3 602	3 776	3 627	3 139
4	5 357	4 872	4 660	4 223	3 550
5	2 855	2 505	2 339	2 020	1 698
6 and above	1 273	1 112	1 027	909	789
Total	15 302	13 956	13 897	12 902	10 810

Table 2 : Numbers of CSSA low-earnings cases by combinations of household member(s) (whether with recipient(s) aged 65 or above, aged below 15 or new arrival(s) who resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years (NA7))

Combinations of member(s)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
With one or more recipients of any age being NA7	2 453	2 007	1 839	1 615	1 337
Without any recipient being NA7 and with at least one elderly recipient aged 65 or above	2 545	2 439	2 480	2 339	2 019
Without any recipient being NA7 and with at least one child recipient aged below 15 whilst without any elderly recipient aged 65 or above	7 536	6 871	6 681	6 102	5 150
Without any recipient being NA7 and with recipient aged 15-64 only (i.e. no NA7, no child recipient aged below 15 nor elderly recipients aged 65 or above)	2 768	2 639	2 897	2 846	2 304
Total	15 302	13 956	13 897	12 902	10 810

Table 3 : Numbers of CSSA low-earnings cases by duration of stay on CSSA

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1 or less	953	995	1 120	776	544
More than 1 - 2	1 231	864	1 056	1 039	681
More than 2 - 3	1 337	1 042	762	913	875
More than 3 - 4	1 578	1 156	923	708	679
More than 4 - 5	2 224	1 334	1 052	846	603
More than 5	7 979	8 565	8 984	8 620	7 428
Total	15 302	13 956	13 897	12 902	10 810

Table 4 : Numbers of CSSA low-earnings cases by type of accommodation

Type of accommodation	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Public housing estates ^[Note 3]	12 637	11 513	11 357	10 483	8 732
Private housing	2 629	2 397	2 492	2 377	2 047
Institutions	5	6	11	9	5
Others ^[Note 4]	31	40	37	33	26
Total	15 302	13 956	13 897	12 902	10 810

Statistics on CSSA recipients in low-earnings cases with breakdown by selected profiles from 2007-08 to 2011-12 were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 2] _

Table 5 : Numbers of CSSA recipients in low-earnings cases by gender

Gender	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Male	28 764	26 133	25 733	23 509	19 883
Female	30 129	27 050	26 160	23 904	20 226
Total	58 893	53 183	51 893	47 413	40 109

Table 6 : Numbers of CSSA recipients in low-earnings cases by educational attainment

Educational attainment	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
No schooling/ kindergarten	13 627	12 229	11 786	10 875	9 386
Primary	27 137	23 992	22 907	20 654	17 364
Lower secondary	11 393	10 501	10 566	9 675	8 220
Upper secondary	5 691	5 423	5 497	5 131	4 205
Matriculation or above ^[Note 5]	1 045	1 038	1 137	1 078	934
Total	58 893	53 183	51 893	47 413	40 109

Table 7 : Numbers of CSSA recipients in low-earnings cases by age group

Age group	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Under 15	18 238	16 376	15 642	14 272	12 078
15 – 59	35 448	31 974	31 406	28 551	24 046
60 or above	5 207	4 833	4 845	4 590	3 985
Total	58 893	53 183	51 893	47 413	40 109

Statistics on CSSA recipients with employment earnings in CSSA low-earnings cases with breakdown by selected profiles from 2007-08 to 2011-12 were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 2] –

Table 8 : Numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings in low-earnings cases by occupation

Occupation	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Cleaner	2 486	2 212	2 222	1 967	1 494
Clerk	651	564	568	482	418
Construction worker/ labourer/decoration worker	708	619	596	544	472
Delivery worker	866	774	773	738	672
Domestic helper/baby sitter	291	287	298	278	183
Driver	890	830	845	815	720
General worker/labourer (other than those of construction)	3 346	3 065	3 150	2 956	2 499
Salesperson	867	842	909	841	689

Occupation	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Waiter/waitress	849	752	759	671	619
Watchman/guard	1 833	1 616	1 493	1 374	1 040
Others	3 350	2 900	2 960	2 927	2 403
Total	16 137	14 461	14 573	13 593	11 209

Table 9 : Numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings in low-earnings cases by monthly working hours ^[Note 6]

Monthly working hours (hours)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
50 or less	395	354	361	400	363
50 – less than 100	486	441	508	503	548
100 – less than 150	3 175	3 122	3 321	3 354	3 533
150 – less than 200	3 132	2 881	3 003	2 781	2 435
200 – less than 250	5 302	4 585	4 545	4 105	3 079
250 or above	2 494	2 080	1 965	1 658	849
Total	14 984	13 463	13 703	12 801	10 807

Table 10 : Numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings in CSSA low-earnings cases by employment earnings

Employment earnings	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	302	219	257	253	200
\$1,000 – less than \$2,000	754	665	704	656	329
\$2,000 – less than \$3,000	1 659	1 565	1 573	1 446	516
\$3,000 – less than \$4,000	2 294	2 186	2 259	2 144	2 036
\$4,000 – less than \$5,000	2 969	2 450	2 304	2 175	1 830
\$5,000 – less than \$6,000	3 106	2 529	2 610	2 251	1 409
\$6,000 – less than \$7,000	2 527	2 359	2 265	2 020	1 764
\$7,000 – less than \$8,000	1 338	1 332	1 280	1 281	1 269
\$8,000 – less than \$9,000	595	628	661	693	946
\$9,000 – less than \$10,000	273	285	284	323	532
\$10,000 or above	320	243	376	351	378
Total	16 137	14 461	14 573	13 593	11 209

- [Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.
- [Note 2] The number of CSSA cases refer to those with eligible members.
- [Note 3] Including public housing estates under the Housing Authority and the Housing Society.
- [Note 4] Including street sleeping, government quarters, men's apartment and other unclassified types of accommodation.
- [Note 5] Including institutes under the Vocational Training Council and commercial schools.
- [Note 6] Excluding CSSA recipients without information on monthly working hours.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the provision of disregarded earnings (DE) under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, what were the median monthly income and average income of CSSA recipients under the “unemployment” and “low-earnings” categories over the past five years (i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12)?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The median employment earnings and average employment earnings of the unemployed and low-earnings CSSA recipients who benefited from monthly DE over the past five years were as follows –

Year ^[Note]	Median employment earnings of CSSA recipients who benefited from monthly DE	
	Unemployed recipients (\$)	Low-earnings recipients (\$)
2007-08	900	4,800
2008-09	1,050	4,800
2009-10	1,000	4,800
2010-11	1,000	4,800
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	1,008	5,000

Average employment earnings of CSSA recipients who benefited from monthly DE

Year ^[Note]		
	Unemployed recipients (\$)	Low-earnings recipients (\$)
2007-08	860	4,840
2008-09	1,049	4,893
2009-10	1,005	4,911
2010-11	1,024	4,962
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	1,032	5,377

[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the table are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)118

Question Serial No.

1293

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Support for Self-reliance (SFS) Scheme and Intensive Employment Assistance Projects (IEAPs) under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme over the past five years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12), please provide -

- (a) the numbers of CSSA recipients who had joined the SFS Scheme and the IEAPs;
- (b) their age distribution, gender and education level;
- (c) the numbers of recipients who had secured full-time or part-time employment;
- (d) the nature of jobs and the median employment income; and
- (e) the numbers of recipients who had left the CSSA net?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The total number of participants served by various projects under the SFS Scheme^[Note 1] over the past five years (up to the end of December 2011) was 131 560. Among them, 33 961 had secured full-time employment^[Note 2] and 6 130 had left the CSSA net. We are unable to provide information on their age distribution, gender, education level, the nature of job and the median employment income as the computer systems concerned do not keep such information.

[Note 1] Including IEAPs, the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme (launched in October 2008 to replace IEAPs) and Special Training and Enhancement Programme.

[Note 2] The SFS Scheme aims to encourage and assist the unemployed able-bodied CSSA recipients aged 15 to 59 to secure full-time employment with working hours no less than 120 per month. We have no record on the number of participants who had secured part-time employment.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the respective numbers of elderly recipients on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) who lived with their families over the past five years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12); the number of families living with elder(s); the number of households with a monthly household income less than the CSSA payments for CSSA households of the same size?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases with CSSA recipients aged 60 or above living with at least one CSSA recipient aged below 60 in the past five years were as follows ^[Note 1] _

Year	Number of CSSA cases
2007-08	27 765
2008-09	26 854
2009-10	27 287
2010-11	26 616
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	25 336

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

The numbers of domestic households ^[Note 2] in Hong Kong with at least one member aged 60 or above and at least one member (excluding foreign domestic helpers) aged below 60 and with household income below average monthly CSSA payment ^[Note 3] were as follows –

Year	Number of domestic households in Hong Kong
2007	71 700
2008	66 100
2009	81 500
2010	76 200

[Note 2] Figures on numbers of domestic households in Hong Kong are provided by the Census and Statistics Department. Figure for 2011 will be available in end-March 2012.

[Note 3] Average monthly CSSA payment refers to the amount a CSSA case without other income would get in a month. It can be more specifically regarded as "recognised needs" under the CSSA Scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Regarding the short-term food assistance service projects (the Projects), please set out the number of service recipients by the five Projects, the average number of service recipients per month and the number of applicants who re-apply for the service six months after they have received the assistance since the Projects' implementation in 2009.
- (b) Please set out the number of service recipients by the five Projects with breakdowns by their monthly household income, family composition (whether there are members aged 65 or above, aged below 15 or having resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years), employment status (unemployed, full-time worker, part-time worker), gender, education level and age distribution.
- (c) Under the Projects, what types and quantity of food (such as rice, oil and egg) that each adult, child and elder can receive in average per week? What is the average total value of food they get each week?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) Since the implementation of the Projects in February 2009, the accumulative and monthly average breakdowns of the number of service recipients by the operating non-governmental organisation (NGO) as at the end of December 2011 were as follows –

Operating NGO Number of Service Recipient	St. James' Settlement [Note 1]	Tung Wah Groups of Hospitals [Note 2]	Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service [Note 3]	Hong Kong Women Development Association Limited [Note 4]	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council [Note 5]	Total
Accumulative Total	15 851	21 130	11 249	8 261	16 217	72 708
Monthly Average	466	621	331	243	477	2 138

We do not have the number of service recipients who re-applied for the service six months after receiving the assistance.

- (b) Distribution of the service recipients in terms of age and sex and those who are unemployed is listed in the following table. Other information requested is not available.

Operating NGO Number of Service Recipient	St. James' Settlement	Tung Wah Groups of Hospitals	Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service	Hong Kong Women Development Association Limited	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council	Total	
Unemployed	4 795	4 884	1 423	2 961	4 174	18 237	
Sex	Male	7 845	10 703	5 147	3 799	7 918	35 412
	Female	8 006	10 427	6 102	4 462	8 299	37 296
Age	Under 18 years old	5 039	6 691	2 907	2 695	5 479	22 811
	18-60 years old	9 460	12 789	5 630	4 547	9 101	41 527
	Over 60 years old	1 352	1 650	2 712	1 019	1 637	8 370

[Note 1] Districts served: Hong Kong, Outlying Islands and Tung Chung, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing,

[Note 2] Districts served: Kowloon City, Yau Tsim Mong and Sham Shui Po

[Note 3] Districts served: Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin and Sai Kung

[Note 4] Districts served: Sha Tin, Tai Po and North

[Note 5] Districts served: Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tin Shui Wai

- (c) The provision of food assistance to each service recipient is made according to his/her need as assessed by the operating NGO. Based on the assessed need of each service recipient, the operating NGO may provide rice, cereal, eggs, baby food/formula, food coupons for fresh/frozen foods, etc. as appropriate. There is no fixed amount of food value for each service recipient.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)121

Question Serial No.

1296

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide in table form the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients under the low income households category [monthly household income (excluding foreign domestic helpers) less than 50% of the median domestic household income] over the past five years with breakdown by type of accommodation –

Type of accommodation	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Public housing (rental flats)					
Public housing (sale flats)					
Private housing					
Others: temporary accommodation such as cottages and roof-top structures etc					
Total					

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The average numbers of CSSA recipients in households^[Note 1] with total available resources less than 50% of the median monthly household income (excluding foreign domestic helpers) from 2007 to 2010^[Note 2] with breakdown by type of accommodation were as follows –

Type of accommodation	2007	2008	2009	2010
Public housing	246 645	254 457	212 162	214 009
Private housing – Home Ownership Scheme flats	5 560	5 144	4 259	4 185
Private housing - others	52 885	49 559	38 496	37 729
Others ^[Note 3]	3 086	2 959	2 905	2 828
Overall ^[Note 4]	308 177	312 118	257 822	258 751

[Note 1] Excluding those (i) under Portable CSSA (PCSSA) Scheme; and (ii) with accommodation type being Hospital/medical institution, Private Institution or Subvented/Government/Non-profit-making institution for elderly/non-elderly.

[Note 2] Figures on median monthly household income (excluding foreign domestic helpers) are provided by the Census and Statistics Department. As median monthly household income figures for 2011 will only be available in end-March 2012, breakdown of CSSA cases with total available resources less than 50% of the median monthly household income in 2011 is not available.

[Note 3] Including street sleeping, government quarters, men's apartment and other unclassified types of accommodation.

[Note 4] Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding effect.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13, the Administration plans to introduce a Residential Care Supplement under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme for recipients aged 60 or above and recipients with disabilities or in ill-health of any age, who occupy non-subsidised residential care places. What is the amount involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The additional annual expenditure for the payment of the Residential Care Supplement under the CSSA Scheme is estimated to be around \$100 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information for the past three years (i.e. 2009-10 to 2011-12 (for months with available data)) –

- (a) with regard to application for dental grant by Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients, i) the numbers of applicants and applications; ii) the number of applications approved; and iii) the average, maximum, minimum and total amount of grant approved, with breakdown by age group; and
- (b) the number of dental clinics designated by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) for providing examination service and cost quotation to CSSA recipients, and the geographical distribution of such clinics.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) A CSSA recipient may submit more than one claim for dental grant within a year. Figures on the numbers of applicants for dental grant are not readily available.

Statistics on approved claims together with the related amounts of dental grant with breakdowns by age group of the recipients in the past three years were as follows ^[Note 1] –

(i) Claims by recipients aged 18 or below

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Number of approved claims	27	32	17
Average amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	1,838	1,715	2,095

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Minimum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	295	50	40
Maximum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	9,145	7,850	12,100
Total amount of dental grant claimed (\$ million)	0.0 ^[Note 2]	0.1	0.0 ^[Note 2]

(ii) Claims by recipients aged 19 – 59

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Number of approved claims	2 693	3 101	2 731
Average amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	4,113	4,150	4,205
Minimum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	20	20	20
Maximum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	22,515	24,630	17,860
Total amount of dental grant claimed (\$ million)	11.1	12.9	11.5

(iii) Claims by recipients aged 60 or above

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Number of approved claims	5 506	6 806	6 111
Average amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	4,779	4,926	4,967
Minimum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	20	10	10
Maximum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	14,800	16,930	17,085
Total amount of dental grant claimed (\$ million)	26.3	33.5	30

(iv) Overall - Claims for recipients of all age groups

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Number of approved claims	8 226	9 939	8 859
Average amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	4,551	4,674	4,727
Minimum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	20	10	10
Maximum amount of dental grant claimed (\$)	22,515	24,630	17,860
Total amount of dental grant claimed (\$ million)	37.4	46.5	41.9

(b) The numbers of dental clinics designated by SWD for providing examination service and cost quotation to CSSA recipients in the past three years were as follows ^[Note 1] _

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Number of designated dental clinics ^[Note 3]	41	47	51

The numbers of the designated dental clinics (excluding the 2 mobile clinics) by geographical district in the past three years were as follows ^[Note 1] _

Geographical district	Number of designated dental clinics		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Aberdeen	1	1	1
Central	1	1	1
Chai Wan	2	2	2
Diamond Hill	2	2	2
Fanling	0	0	1
Kowloon City	2	2	2
Kwai Chung	1	1	1
Kwai Tsing	1	1	1
Kwun Tong	4	5	6
Lam Tin	1	1	1
Lei Cheng Uk	1	1	1
Mong Kok	1	1	1
Ngau Tau Kok	1	2	2
North Point	1	1	1

Geographical district	Number of designated dental clinics		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Sau Mau Ping	1	1	1
Sham Shui Po	2	2	2
Shau Kei Wan	0	1	0
Tai Po	3	3	3
Tin Shui Wai	1	1	1
To Kwa Wan	0	1	1
Tseung Kwan O	3	3	3
Tsim Sha Tsui	1	1	1
Tsuen Wan	0	1	2
Tsz Wan Shan	1	1	1
Tuen Mun	1	1	2
Tung Chung	1	1	1
Wan Chai	2	2	2
Wong Tai Sin	1	2	2
Yau Ma Tei	2	2	3
Yuen Long	1	1	1

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 2] Less than \$0.05 million.

[Note 3] Figures include 2 mobile clinics.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information on applications for additional grants for selected items of school related expenses by Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients in the past three years (i.e. 2009-10 to 2011-12 (for months with available data)), with breakdown by type of grant and age group (0-6, 7-14, 15-24 and 25 or above) –

- (a) the numbers of applicants and applications;
- (b) the number of successful applicants for the additional grants and the number of applications approved; and
- (c) the average, maximum, minimum and total amount of grant approved.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) - (c) A CSSA recipient may submit more than one claim for the additional grant for selected items of school related expenses (the grant) within a year. Figures on the numbers of applicants and successful applicants for the grant are not readily available.

The numbers of approved claims with breakdowns by age group of recipients and grant amount in the past three years were as follows –

Age group	2009-10				
	Number of approved claims	Average amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Minimum amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Maximum amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Total amount of the grant claimed (\$)
0 - 6	292	1,040	28	3,155	303,710
7 - 14	299	893	40	3,797	267,057
15 - 24	52	957	47	3,766	49,784
25 or above	0	0	0	0	0
Overall	643	965	28	3,797	620,551

Age group	2010-11				
	Number of approved claims	Average amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Minimum amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Maximum amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Total amount of the grant claimed (\$)
0 - 6	275	1,029	26	3,591	282,961
7 - 14	368	893	7	4,316	328,607
15 - 24	112	928	78	3,116	103,947
25 or above	0	0	0	0	0
Overall	755	948	7	4,316	715,515

Age group	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)				
	Number of successful claims	Average amount per grant claimed (\$)	Minimum amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Maximum amount of the grant claimed (\$)	Total amount of the grant claimed (\$)
0 - 6	196	1,052	20	3,964	206,218
7 - 14	226	882	7	4,412	199,407
15 - 24	53	1,028	98	5,434	54,510
25 or above	0	0	0	0	0
Overall	475	969	7	5,434	460,135

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)125

Question Serial No.

2381

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information on the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme –

- (a) the numbers of new CSSA cases (including reapplications from those having left the CSSA net before) and the numbers of cases which left the CSSA net in each of the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12), with breakdown by nature of case;
- (b) the numbers of new CSSA recipients (including reapplications from those having left the CSSA net before) and the numbers of recipients who left the CSSA net (please provide the number of recipients who left the CSSA net due to death separately) in each of the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12), with breakdown by age group; and
- (c) the numbers of recipients who left the CSSA net (please provide the number of recipients who left the CSSA net due to death separately) in each of the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12), with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The numbers of CSSA new applications and cases closed in the past three years by case nature were as follows ^[Note 1] –

Table 1 : Number of CSSA new applications with breakdown by case nature ^[Note 2]

Case nature	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Old age	15 356	15 071	11 277
Permanent disability	1 777	1 640	1 301
Ill health	7 045	7 012	5 302

Case nature	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Single parent	4 730	3 954	2 699
Low-earnings	3 636	2 937	1 788
Unemployment	14 288	10 369	7 053
Others	5 902	5 851	4 464
Total	52 734	46 834	33 884

Table 2 : Number of CSSA cases closed with breakdown by case nature ^[Note 2]

Case nature	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Old age	13 921	14 109	11 417
Permanent disability	1 209	1 211	1 013
Ill health	2 440	2 548	2 122
Single parent	3 450	3 759	3 150
Low-earnings	2 640	2 966	2 658
Unemployment	6 484	6 719	5 066
Others	1 256	1 398	1 177
Total	31 400	32 710	26 603

- (b) We do not keep information on the number of recipients involved in new applications and cases closed.
- (c) The numbers of CSSA cases closed in the past three years by case nature and by closure reason were as follows ^[Note 1] –

Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed in 2009-10 ^[Note 2]						
	Closure reason						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	70	11 222	250	156	2 003	220	13 921
Permanent disability	6	275	97	72	677	82	1 209
Ill health	9	502	88	286	1 357	198	2 440
Single parent	15	10	90	376	2 876	83	3 450
Low-earnings	4	5	69	199	2 306	57	2 640

Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed in 2009-10 ^[Note 2]						
	Closure reason						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Unemployment	19	159	266	1 839	3 751	450	6 484
Others	5	17	40	278	802	114	1 256
Total	128	12 190	900	3 206	13 772	1 204	31 400

Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed in 2010-11 ^[Note 2]						
	Closure reason						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	81	11 268	281	233	2 090	156	14 109
Permanent disability	4	268	86	89	687	77	1 211
Ill health	10	500	94	300	1 458	186	2 548
Single parent	9	11	97	447	3 122	73	3 759
Low-earnings	3	6	81	256	2 591	29	2 966
Unemployment	20	134	253	1 807	4 085	420	6 719
Others	1	11	24	315	891	156	1 398
Total	128	12 198	916	3 447	14 924	1 097	32 710

Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed in 2011-12 ^[Note 2] (up to the end of January 2012)						
	Closure reason						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	44	8 678	220	171	2 147	157	11 417
Permanent disability	0	187	56	61	639	70	1 013
Ill health	5	373	67	210	1 330	137	2 122
Single parent	6	9	82	272	2 729	52	3 150
Low-earnings	1	5	75	139	2 398	40	2 658
Unemployment	15	112	210	1 147	3 297	285	5 066
Others	1	11	16	239	770	140	1 177
Total	72	9 375	726	2 239	13 310	881	26 603

We do not keep record of the numbers of CSSA cases with breakdowns by duration of stay on CSSA, and record of the number of recipients involved in cases closed.

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 2] Cases which have been on CSSA intermittently have been counted more than once.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) applications –

- (a) the numbers of employable adult recipients who had been on CSSA for less than one year, one to two years, three to five years and over six years in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12) (year-end figures), with breakdown by age group (14 or below, 15-59, 60 or above);
- (b) the numbers of CSSA recipients in the age group of 15-59 who had no need to join the Support for Self-reliance Scheme (SFS) in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12) (year-end figures), and the reasons for exemption from joining the scheme; and
- (c) the numbers of employable adult recipients who had been on CSSA for less than one year, one to two years, three to five years and over six years in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12) (year-end figures), with breakdowns by age group (15-24, 25-39, 40-49, 50-59) and education level.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) Under the CSSA Scheme, employable adult recipients refer to employable recipients who are aged 15 – 59. Those aged 14 or below and 60 or above are not included. The numbers of employable adult recipients with breakdowns by duration of stay on CSSA in the past three years were as follows ^[Note 1] –

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1 or less	8 191	5 799	4 543
More than 1 - 2	5 555	5 498	3 861
More than 2 - 3	3 560	4 361	4 353
More than 3 - 4	3 664	2 975	3 110
More than 4 - 5	3 588	3 083	2 493
More than 5	31 037	30 154	27 066
Total	55 595	51 870	45 426

(b) We do not have readily available information on the number of CSSA recipients who are aged 15-59 and are not required to join the SFS Scheme. The CSSA recipients in the following situations are usually exempted from joining the SFS Scheme –

- (i) medically certified to be disabled/unfit for work/of limited working capacity by a public medical officer;
- (ii) staying in public hospital;
- (iii) receiving full-time education;
- (iv) occupied with family care; or
- (v) being socially handicapped.

(c) The numbers of employable adult recipients with breakdowns by duration of stay on CSSA, age group and educational attainment in the past three years were as follows ^[Note 1] –

Table 1: The numbers of employable adult recipients having received CSSA for one or less than one year

Year	Educational attainment	Age group				Total
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	
2009-10	No schooling/ kindergarten	3	59	115	190	367
	Primary	46	627	1 055	1 597	3 325
	Lower secondary	217	991	780	540	2 528
	Upper secondary	227	640	488	321	1 676
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	68	99	67	61	295
	Total	561	2 416	2 505	2 709	8 191
2010-11	No schooling/ kindergarten	4	39	65	116	224
	Primary	38	466	728	1 146	2 378
	Lower secondary	163	693	511	436	1 803
	Upper secondary	141	459	333	227	1 160
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	48	69	65	52	234
	Total	394	1 726	1 702	1 977	5 799

Year	Educational attainment	Age group				
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	Total
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	No schooling/ kindergarten	3	35	47	108	193
	Primary	27	330	537	857	1 751
	Lower secondary	119	534	454	346	1 453
	Upper secondary	83	376	304	197	960
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	53	47	47	39	186
	Total	285	1 322	1 389	1 547	4 543

Table 2 :The numbers of employable adult recipients having received CSSA for more than one to two years

Year	Educational attainment	Age group				
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	Total
2009-10	No schooling/ kindergarten	1	54	92	156	303
	Primary	36	440	791	1 122	2 389
	Lower secondary	110	627	566	391	1 694
	Upper secondary	145	350	328	200	1 023
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	36	39	34	37	146
	Total	328	1 510	1 811	1 906	5 555
2010-11	No schooling/ kindergarten	2	39	88	147	276
	Primary	29	393	707	1 109	2 238
	Lower secondary	116	604	541	414	1 675
	Upper secondary	155	375	339	252	1 121
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	44	59	36	49	188
	Total	346	1 470	1 711	1 971	5 498
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	No schooling/ kindergarten	1	27	58	82	168
	Primary	18	294	513	830	1 655
	Lower secondary	76	418	364	307	1 165
	Upper secondary	83	263	231	165	742
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	29	37	39	26	131
	Total	207	1 039	1 205	1 410	3 861

Table 3 : The numbers of employable adult recipients having received CSSA for more than two to three years

Year	Educational attainment	Age group				
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	Total
2009-10	No schooling/ kindergarten	4	34	82	138	258
	Primary	25	283	552	759	1 619
	Lower secondary	86	327	382	227	1 022
	Upper secondary	98	183	181	103	565
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	31	22	29	14	96
	Total	244	849	1 226	1 241	3 560

Year	Educational attainment	Age group				
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	Total
2010-11	No schooling/ kindergarten	2	38	80	129	249
	Primary	27	309	629	916	1 881
	Lower secondary	94	440	469	341	1 344
	Upper secondary	121	226	273	162	782
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	32	29	22	22	105
	Total	276	1 042	1 473	1 570	4 361
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	No schooling/ kindergarten	3	32	67	123	225
	Primary	22	284	575	898	1 779
	Lower secondary	93	427	500	349	1 369
	Upper secondary	99	270	274	215	858
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	24	34	30	34	122
	Total	241	1 047	1 446	1 619	4 353

Table 4 : The numbers of employable adult recipients having received CSSA for more than three to four years

Year	Educational attainment	Age group				
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	Total
2009-10	No schooling/ kindergarten	3	31	85	125	244
	Primary	22	266	618	847	1 753
	Lower secondary	110	299	379	226	1 014
	Upper secondary	110	170	177	104	561
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	28	24	22	18	92
	Total	273	790	1 281	1 320	3 664
2010-11	No schooling/ kindergarten	2	28	74	107	211
	Primary	15	201	473	630	1 319
	Lower secondary	86	246	333	204	869
	Upper secondary	100	131	159	93	483
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	35	19	25	14	93
	Total	238	625	1 064	1 048	2 975
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	No schooling/ kindergarten	5	24	56	94	179
	Primary	20	194	450	668	1 332
	Lower secondary	73	306	324	284	987
	Upper secondary	71	146	207	117	541
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	18	17	17	19	71
	Total	187	687	1 054	1 182	3 110

Table 5 : The numbers of employable adult recipients having received

CSSA for more than four to five years

Year	Educational attainment	Age group				
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	Total
2009-10	No schooling/ kindergarten	1	29	93	133	256
	Primary	38	235	595	834	1 702
	Lower secondary	140	283	338	234	995
	Upper secondary	119	136	189	95	539
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	48	13	20	15	96
	Total	346	696	1 235	1 311	3 588
2010-11	No schooling/ kindergarten	2	26	76	93	197
	Primary	18	199	508	699	1 424
	Lower secondary	115	219	354	219	907
	Upper secondary	100	118	167	93	478
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	25	16	19	17	77
	Total	260	578	1 124	1 121	3 083
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	No schooling/ kindergarten	3	14	63	85	165
	Primary	18	146	411	539	1 114
	Lower secondary	76	193	292	184	745
	Upper secondary	64	104	137	90	395
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	22	18	19	15	74
	Total	183	475	922	913	2 493

Table 6 : The numbers of employable adult recipients having received CSSA for more than five years

Year ^[Note1]	Educational attainment	Age group				
		15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	Total
2009-10	No schooling/ kindergarten	15	159	1 238	1 934	3 346
	Primary	1 337	941	5 597	7 526	15 401
	Lower secondary	1 508	1 179	2 419	1 863	6 969
	Upper secondary	1 741	730	1 113	745	4 329
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	630	157	85	120	992
	Total	5 231	3 166	10 452	12 188	31 037
2010-11	No schooling/ kindergarten	34	133	1 101	1 693	2 961
	Primary	1 245	914	5 332	7 277	14 768
	Lower secondary	1 418	1 253	2 440	1 924	7 035
	Upper secondary	1 623	751	1 200	801	4 375
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	628	165	95	127	1 015
	Total	4 948	3 216	10 168	11 822	30 154
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	No schooling/ kindergarten	22	123	930	1 477	2 552
	Primary	908	821	4 721	6 608	13 058
	Lower secondary	1 085	1 187	2 407	1 882	6 561
	Upper secondary	1 273	684	1 148	842	3 947
	Matriculation or above ^[Note2]	567	158	106	117	948
	Total	3 855	2 973	9 312	10 926	27 066

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 2] Including institutes under Vocational Training Council and commercial schools.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)127

Question Serial No.

2383

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) applications –

- (a) the numbers of CSSA recipients having employment income in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12)(year end figures), with breakdown by employment income (\$999 or below, \$1,000-\$2,499, \$2,500-\$4,999, \$5,000-\$9,999, \$10,000-\$14,999 and \$15,000 or above);
- (b) the numbers of CSSA cases having employment income in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12)(year end figures), with breakdown by total household employment income (\$999 or below, \$1,000-\$2,499, \$2,500-\$4,999, \$5,000-\$9,999, \$10,000-\$14,999 and \$15,000 or above) and household size (one member, two members, three members, four members or above);
- (c) the numbers of CSSA cases having household members who had/had not engaged in paid employment in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12)(year end figures); and
- (d) the numbers of CSSA cases involving recipients aged 65 or above residing in one-member households, and the numbers of CSSA cases involving both recipients aged over 65 residing in two-member households in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12)(year end figures).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The numbers of CSSA recipients having employment earnings by range of such earnings in the past three years were as follows –

Employment earnings	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	6 074	6 181	5 790
\$1,000 – less than \$2,500	8 250	7 982	6 451
\$2,500 – less than \$5,000	12 090	11 618	10 614
\$5,000 – less than \$10,000	11 206	10 634	9 713
\$10,000 – less than \$15,000	407	414	459
\$15,000 or above	87	62	73
Total	38 114	36 891	33 100

(b) The numbers of CSSA cases with employment earnings by range of such earnings and the number of eligible members in the past three years were as follows ^[Note] –

2009-10					
Employment earnings	Number of eligible members				
	1	2	3	4 and over	Total
Less than \$1,000	3 521	944	698	421	5 584
\$1,000 – less than \$2,500	1 612	2 230	1 940	1 406	7 188
\$2,500 – less than \$5,000	760	2 938	3 227	3 853	10 778
\$5,000 – less than \$10,000	90	1 379	3 560	5 888	10 917
\$10,000 – less than \$15,000	2	22	154	719	897
\$15,000 or above	0	6	19	131	156
Total	5 985	7 519	9 598	12 418	35 520

2010-11					
Employment earnings	Number of eligible members				
	1	2	3	4 and over	Total
Less than \$1,000	3 574	995	707	397	5 673
\$1,000 – less than \$2,500	1 659	2 269	1 770	1 255	6 953
\$2,500 – less than \$5,000	865	3 010	3 188	3 289	10 352
\$5,000 – less than \$10,000	68	1 509	3 495	5 289	10 361
\$10,000 – less than \$15,000	3	23	145	749	920
\$15,000 or above	1	2	16	103	122
Total	6 170	7 808	9 321	11 082	34 381

2011-12					
Employment earnings	Number of eligible members				
	1	2	3	4 and over	Total
Less than \$1,000	3 590	897	577	309	5 373
\$1,000 – less than \$2,500	1 453	1 904	1 433	970	5 760
\$2,500 – less than \$5,000	874	3 029	2 840	2 819	9 562
\$5,000 – less than \$10,000	77	1 497	3 275	4 632	9 481
\$10,000 – less than \$15,000	4	14	160	710	888
\$15,000 or above	4	2	20	97	123
Total	6 002	7 343	8 305	9 537	31 187

(c) The respective numbers of CSSA cases with and without recipient(s) having employment earnings in the past three years were as follows –

Year ^[Note]	Number of cases with recipient(s) having employment earnings	Number of cases without any recipient having employment earnings	Total
2009-10	35 520	235 284	270 804
2010-11	34 381	233 116	267 497
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	31 187	229 565	260 752

- (d) The respective numbers of singleton and 2-person CSSA cases, with all recipients aged 65 or above in the past three years were as follows –

Year ^[Note]	Number of singleton CSSA cases with recipients aged 65 or above	Number of 2-person CSSA cases with both recipients aged 65 or above
2009-10	99 290	17 143
2010-11	98 899	16 994
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	98 670	17 105

[Note] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)128

Question Serial No.

2384

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information on the rent allowance –

- (a) the numbers of cases with actual rent less than, equal to or higher than the maximum levels of the rent allowance (MRA) among the cases in public housing estates receiving rent allowance in the year 2012 (as at the end of February), with breakdown by the number of eligible household members and amounts of rent higher than \$1-\$99, \$100-\$499, \$500-\$999 and \$1,000 or above; and the numbers of cases in private housing receiving rent allowance by the above criteria; and
- (b) the median amount of the actual rent paid by households in private housing per month, among the cases in private housing receiving rent allowance in the past three years, i.e. from 2010 to 2012 (as at the end of February), with breakdown by the number of eligible household members and geographical district (District Council districts).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The numbers of CSSA cases with actual rent less than, equal to or higher than the MRA among the cases in public and private housing receiving rent allowance (with breakdown by the number of eligible members and the amount of actual rent exceeding the MRA) as at the end of January 2012 were as below –

Number of eligible members	Public housing estates (as at the end of January 2012)						
	Amount of actual rent less than MRA	Amount of actual rent equal to MRA	Amount of actual rent higher than MRA				Total
			Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more	
1	67 542	78	805	1 755	788	36	3 384
2	44 005	2	117	138	52	22	329
3	21 019	0	9	18	23	6	56
4	10 828	0	2	15	6	7	30
5	3 761	1	1	5	0	2	8
6 and above	1 362	1	0	0	0	2	2
Total	148 517	82	934	1 931	869	75	3 809

Number of eligible members	Private housing estates (as at the end of January 2012)						
	Amount of actual rent less than MRA	Amount of actual rent equal to MRA	Amount of actual rent higher than MRA				Total
			Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more	
1	5 636	580	2 787	5 418	2 888	1 891	12 984
2	4 669	92	535	1 887	1 180	1 316	4 918
3	2 559	15	158	1 000	665	1 047	2 870
4	1 011	1	88	363	274	535	1 260
5	256	4	13	108	86	247	454
6 and above	127	0	19	34	62	87	202
Total	14 258	692	3 600	8 810	5 155	5 123	22 688

- (b) Median actual rent of CSSA cases in private housing receiving rent allowance (with breakdown by the number of eligible members and geographical district) in the past three years were as follows ^[Note 1] –

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Median actual rent of CSSA cases in private housing in 2009-10 (\$)					
	Number of eligible members					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or above
Central & Western	1,400	2,600	3,630	4,050	4,600	4,678
Eastern	1,500	2,600	3,500	4,250	4,400	5,243
Islands	1,400	2,500	3,200	3,000	3,242	4,150
Kowloon City	1,400	2,500	3,300	3,450	3,775	3,900

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Median actual rent of CSSA cases in private housing in 2009-10 (\$)					
	Number of eligible members					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or above
Kwai Tsing	1,400	2,500	3,300	3,390	3,875	4,100
Kwun Tong	1,450	2,600	3,350	3,625	3,700	4,200
North	1,400	2,500	3,200	3,500	3,575	3,000
Sai Kung	1,263	2,500	3,666	3,800	5,253	5,500
Sha Tin	772	1,935	3,600	4,200	4,200	4,015
Sham Shui Po	1,300	2,500	3,200	3,300	3,600	4,300
Southern	1,475	2,500	3,200	3,300	3,975	4,800
Tai Po	1,400	2,550	3,330	3,500	4,450	4,500
Tsuen Wan	1,400	2,500	3,300	3,700	4,350	4,050
Tuen Mun	1,300	2,500	3,500	3,600	4,100	4,200
Wan Chai	1,400	2,500	3,300	4,400	4,350	6,150
Wong Tai Sin	1,300	2,500	3,300	3,600	3,559	4,300
Yau Tsim Mong	1,300	2,500	3,300	3,600	3,867	4,600
Yuen Long	1,300	2,500	3,200	3,400	3,500	4,000
Overall	1,350	2,500	3,300	3,500	3,800	4,300

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Median actual rent of CSSA cases in private housing in 2010-11 (\$)					
	Number of eligible members					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or above
Central & Western	1,400	2,700	3,700	4,200	4,800	4,865
Eastern	1,500	2,700	3,600	4,500	4,125	4,700
Islands	1,400	2,500	3,100	3,000	3,400	3,800
Kowloon City	1,400	2,550	3,300	3,500	3,875	4,300
Kwai Tsing	1,500	2,500	3,300	3,600	3,250	4,700
Kwun Tong	1,500	2,600	3,425	3,600	3,800	4,500
North	1,500	2,500	3,300	3,500	3,800	3,450
Sai Kung	767	2,500	3,600	3,670	4,500	6,243

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Median actual rent of CSSA cases in private housing in 2010-11 (\$)					
	Number of eligible members					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or above
Sha Tin	765	2,000	3,775	4,184	4,200	4,500
Sham Shui Po	1,350	2,500	3,300	3,390	3,700	4,300
Southern	1,500	2,600	3,300	4,000	3,500	5,150
Tai Po	1,500	2,566	3,500	3,500	4,500	5,000
Tsuen Wan	1,400	2,600	3,300	3,800	3,550	4,500
Tuen Mun	1,300	2,486	3,500	3,707	4,600	4,500
Wan Chai	1,350	2,600	3,250	4,100	4,500	6,600
Wong Tai Sin	1,375	2,500	3,385	3,850	4,200	4,300
Yau Tsim Mong	1,400	2,550	3,330	3,700	4,000	4,850
Yuen Long	1,300	2,500	3,300	3,500	3,800	4,200
Overall	1,400	2,500	3,300	3,600	4,000	4,500

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Median actual rent of CSSA cases in private housing in 2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012) (\$)					
	Number of eligible members					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or above
Central & Western	1,400	2,700	3,800	4,500	4,700	5,100
Eastern	1,500	2,800	3,800	4,265	4,650	5,200
Islands	1,500	2,500	3,150	3,200	3,250	4,200
Kowloon City	1,400	2,600	3,400	3,700	4,000	4,700
Kwai Tsing	1,500	2,550	3,300	3,600	3,800	5,000
Kwun Tong	1,500	2,600	3,500	3,700	4,000	4,500
North	1,500	2,600	3,300	3,500	3,750	4,500
Sai Kung	746	2,295	3,000	3,831	4,500	6,385
Sha Tin	764	1,200	3,600	4,351	4,200	5,230
Sham Shui Po	1,400	2,600	3,300	3,500	3,900	4,400
Southern	1,500	2,800	3,600	4,150	5,400	5,380
Tai Po	1,500	2,700	3,600	3,800	4,500	5,000

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Median actual rent of CSSA cases in private housing in 2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012) (\$)					
	Number of eligible members					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or above
Tsuen Wan	1,500	2,600	3,500	3,800	3,360	4,650
Tuen Mun	1,300	2,500	3,500	3,900	4,800	4,600
Wan Chai	1,400	2,600	3,400	4,400	4,500	6,250
Wong Tai Sin	1,323	2,550	3,500	3,800	4,500	4,400
Yau Tsim Mong	1,400	2,600	3,500	3,700	3,800	5,200
Yuen Long	1,350	2,500	3,300	3,600	3,763	4,500
Overall	1,400	2,600	3,400	3,700	4,000	4,700

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 2] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)129

Question Serial No.

2385

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information on Disability Allowance (DA) applications –

- (a) the numbers of DA recipients, with breakdown by age group and gender, in the past three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12 (for months with available data)) (please provide a breakdown by Normal Disability Allowance (NDA) and Higher Disability Allowance (HDA)); and
- (b) the numbers of DA recipients receiving the allowance for i) less than one year; ii) one to less than three years; iii) four to less than five years; and iv) six years or above as at the end of 2011 (please provide a breakdown by NDA and HDA).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The numbers of HDA and NDA recipients in the past three years with breakdown by age group and gender were as follows ^[Note] –

Age group	2009-10					
	HDA			NDA		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
0-14	285	398	683	1 908	4 731	6 639
15-59	1 475	1 807	3 282	26 949	24 412	51 361
60 and above	7 467	5 185	12 652	29 998	25 259	55 257
Total	9 227	7 390	16 617	58 855	54 402	113 257

Age group	2010-11					
	HDA			NDA		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
0-14	279	388	667	1 920	5 156	7 076
15-59	1 497	1 871	3 368	28 250	25 282	53 532
60 and above	7 737	5 560	13 297	30 857	26 112	56 969
Total	9 513	7 819	17 332	61 027	56 550	117 577

Age group	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)					
	HDA			NDA		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
0-14	263	378	641	1 973	5 500	7 473
15-59	1 511	1 903	3 414	29 574	26 047	55 621
60 and above	8 243	5 784	14 027	32 067	26 984	59 051
Total	10 017	8 065	18 082	63 614	58 531	122 145

[Note] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

(b) The breakdowns of HDA and NDA recipients by duration on DA are not readily available.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)130

Question Serial No.

2387

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) The Administration announced that from 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream. Please inform this Committee of the actual number of additional subsidised places to be provided for each year; and

(b) The Administration will upgrade the quality and provide additional places for the elderly through the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS). Please inform this Committee of the latest purchase price for a place, and the total number of places to be purchased. Please list them out by year from 2011-12 to 2014-15.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The additional subsidised residential care places for the elderly which are expected to commence service from 2011-12 to 2014-15 are as follows –

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Additional subsidised residential care places	1 009	1 219	248	166

(b) The additional subsidised places under EBPS from 2011-12 to 2014-15 are as follows –

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Additional subsidised places under EBPS	393	512	Under planning	

The above EBPS places are of a higher quality, i.e. EA1 level. In 2011-12, the unit subsidy per month for each EA1 place (with provision of physiotherapy treatment and rehabilitation programme) in urban district and the New Territories is \$8,001 and \$7,342 respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) plans to provide 225 additional day care (DC) places for the elderly in 2012-13. Please inform this Committee what the actual number of additional subsidised DC places to be provided in each day care centre/unit for the elderly (DE/DCU) is. Will the Administration consider allocating these places with reference to the number of elders on the waiting list, so as to avoid mismatch of resources?
- (b) Among the 59 DEs/DCUs across the territory, how many of them do not attain the standard space provision? As some of the DEs/DCUs are set up in district elderly community centres or neighbourhood elderly centres, they are facing the acute problem of space shortage. What measures does the Administration have to tackle this problem?
- (c) Regarding the welfare usage of land for the provision of elderly services, does the Administration have planning to increase the provision of land for welfare use annually? If yes, what is the additional land provided for welfare use per annum and what principles are used to increase land provision? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply (a) In 2012-13, 225 additional DC places in five new DEs/DCU, with a capacity of around 20 to 60 each, are expected to commence service. The provision of DC places are planned with reference to the elderly population, service demand and availability of suitable premises. The geographical distribution of the planned DC places is as follows –

District	Number of DC places
Kwun Tong	100
Yau Tsim Mong	20
Sha Tin	45
Kwai Tsing	60
Total	225

- (b) Recognising the needs of frail elders, SWD has enhanced the spatial standard for day care centres, including setting up a multi-sensory area for providing training to demented elders in the planning of new and reprovisioned centres. For the existing centres which do not meet the prescribed spatial standard, SWD will assist the service providers in the acquisition of new/additional premises to meet the service needs.
- (c) SWD has been proactively identifying suitable sites for setting up elderly service facilities and maintains close contact with relevant government departments with a view to reserving sites in new development and re-development projects, vacant school premises and government accommodation that is surplus to requirement, etc. as far as practicable for setting up elderly service facilities.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will allocate \$900 million in 2012-13 to improve the physical setting and facilities of 250 district elderly community centre (DECCs), neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs) and social centres for the elderly (S/Es). However, it has not addressed the problem of an acute shortage of centre space. Please inform this Committee, of the 250 elderly centres, how many have not attained the required standard of service area. If the service areas of more than half of the centres fail to meet the required standard, how would the Administration address the problem through long-term social welfare land use planning?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will seek funding of \$900 million from the Lotteries Fund with a view to improving the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 elderly centres, i.e. 41 DECCs, 118 NECs, 51 S/Es and 40 self-financing centres for the elderly.

Since the launch of the re-engineering exercise of elderly services in 2003, SWD has increased the standard internal floor area provision of DECC and NEC by 83 square metres and 156 square metres respectively to meet the enhanced functions of the centres. At present, about 63% of DECCs and 47% of NECs have attained the prescribed standard spatial provision. SWD will continue to help the remaining DECCs and NECs relocate elsewhere or set up sub-bases as appropriate.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of places provided by subsidised residential care homes for the elderly, the number of elders waitlisting for such places, the average waiting time as well as the longest waiting time for such places in each district across the territory in the past five years?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Subsidised residential care services places include places of self-care hostels (S/C), homes for the aged (H/A), care-and-attention (C&A) homes, nursing homes (NHs), contract homes, C&A places in private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and NH places under the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme. The provision of subsidised residential care places for the elderly from 2007-08 to 2011-12 is as follows –

Year	Number of subsidised residential care places ^[Note]
2007-08	23 969
2008-09	23 778
2009-10	24 138
2010-11	24 868
2011-12	25 604

[Note] The above figures reflect the situation after the completion of the conversion programme. They do not include subsidised places provided by S/C and H/A which did not provide a continuum of care and were waiting to be converted.

In 2011-12, the geographical distribution of subsidised residential care places for the elderly is as follows –

District	Number of subsidised residential care places
Central & Western	909
Eastern	919
Wan Chai	516
Southern	1 858
Islands	494
Kwun Tong	2 053
Wong Tai Sin	1 764
Sai Kung	1 232
Kowloon City	1 948
Sham Shui Po	1 125
Yau Tsim Mong	810
Sha Tin	1 240
Tai Po	1 277
North	1 513
Yuen Long	1 770
Tsuen Wan	1 756
Kwai Tsing	2 891
Tuen Mun	1 529
Total	25 604

Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or EBPS homes. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole. The number of applicants for subsidised residential care services in the past five years was as follows –

As at the end of the Year	Number of applicants for subsidised residential care services	
	NH places	C&A places
2007	6 270	17 283
2008	6 345	17 795
2009	6 415	19 545
2010	6 581	20 519
2011	6 575	21 283

The average waiting time for admission to subsidised residential care services in the past five years was as follows –

As at the end of the Year	Average Waiting Time ^[Note] (in months)		
	C&A places in subvented/contract homes	C&A places under EBPS	NH places
2007	32	8	46
2008	32	7	40
2009	31	9	39
2010	33	8	37
2011	34	8	37

[Note] Average waiting time for admitted cases in the three months before the end of the year. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

As the waiting time for subsidised residential care services is affected by a number of factors particularly the location and home preference of the applicant, SWD does not capture the figure of the longest waiting time.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) To enhance mental health service, the Administration has earmarked an additional funding totalling \$48 million for integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) in 2011-12 and the coming year. Would the Administration please provide information on the additional financial provision in 2011-12 and the coming year respectively?
- (b) Currently, among the 24 ICCMWs, only six are operating in permanent premises, nine are secured with suitable premises but it is estimated that it will take one year or more for setting up, while premises have not yet been identified for the remaining nine. Regarding the 18 ICCMWs without permanent premises, will the Administration, for the purpose of promoting mental health service in districts, relax the ceiling for rental subsidy, so as to subsidise ICCMWs to rent for premises in commercial buildings with floor area comparable to that originally planned?
- (c) For the remaining ICCMWs with no permanent premises, what is the maximum rental subsidy they are entitled to if they need to rent for premises in commercial buildings for service operation?
- (d) Please provide a breakdown by district the number of cases handled by ICCMWs in 2010-11, the ratio of discharged mental patients to staff, and the employment condition of the discharged mental patients.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The Administration has allocated additional funding of about \$39 million and \$9 million for enhancement of the service of ICCMWs for the year 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively.

- (b) & (c) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments for identifying suitable premises for the operation of ICCMW services in new development or redevelopment projects, vacant government properties, school premises and public housing units, etc. SWD will also consider funding the rental expenses incurred for setting up temporary ICCMWs at suitable commercial premises, and approval has already been given to four such applications. The overall expenditure of rent and rates is capped by the standard provision for a full-scale set of welfare premises in the public sector based on the standard area of the service.
- (d) Depending on the situation and service needs of individual districts, the manpower and caseload of each ICCMW may vary. In this regard, it is not appropriate to make comparison of relevant figures among ICCMWs. Each ICCMW will flexibly deploy its resources to ensure that its services can meet the needs of its district. The ICCMWs have commenced service since October 2010. As at the end of December 2011, in total, ICCMWs had provided casework services to 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. While ICCMWs may arrange referral of vocational rehabilitation services for members as necessary, they do not provide direct employment support services and hence do not have information on the employment condition of the discharged mental patients.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The 24 integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) provides one-stop community mental health support services to the ex-mentally ill persons, persons with suspected mental health problems, their families/carers and local residents throughout the territory. Please inform this Committee of the staffing establishment and the number of staff in each ICCMW since 2010 and the estimated staffing establishment and the number of staff in ICCMWs in 2012-13.

Year / Number	Social worker	Administrative supporting staff	Occupational therapist	Nurse
2010-11				
2011-12				
2012-13				

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : While the operating non-governmental organisations (NGOs) of the ICCMWs are required to provide professional staff like social worker, occupational therapist, psychiatric nurse and other supporting staff, under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the NGOs concerned have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing and strengthen their manpower to ensure service quality and meet service needs. Hence, we do not have a detailed breakdown of the staffing establishment and number of staff in each ICCMW.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)136

Question Serial No.

2394

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration has allocated \$48 million to increase the manpower of the integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) in 2011-12 and the coming year. Please inform this Committee of the working experience of social workers in each ICCMW (broken down by: three years or below; four to six years; seven years or above).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing of different qualifications and working experiences to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) There will be 25 additional places for halfway houses (HWHs) in 2012-13. Please provide the details of the additional places and their distribution; and
- (b) the demand for HWHs from discharged mental patients has increased substantially in recent years. Please inform this Committee of the waiting time for HWHs over the past three years and the number of people on the waiting list each year.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply : (a) Since the provision of the 25 additional HWH places is still at the preparatory stage, we are unable to provide detailed information on the district distribution of places at this stage.
- (b) The requested information is as follows –

Year	Number of applicants on waiting list ^[Note]	Average waiting time ^[Note] (in months)
2008-09	638	5.6
2009-10	816	6.2
2010-11	784	8.2

[Note] The figure for 2011-12 is not yet available as the waiting time is calculated on a yearly basis from 1 April to 31 March of the following year.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : There will be an increase of 80 places for care-and-attention homes for the severely disabled persons (C&A/SDs) in 2012-13. Please provide the following information –

- (a) What is the distribution of the additional places by district?
- (b) What is the distribution of the additional places in the service units newly set-up and existing service units?
- (c) If additional places are to be provided in existing service units, the net floor area per service user will be reduced. In this connection, has the Administration obtained any information regarding the impact of net floor area per service user? If yes, please give the details.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) to (c) The Administration plans to provide 80 additional places for C&A/SD in 2012-13. Since these places will be provided at new premises and the project is still at the preparatory stage, including local consultation, application for change in land use, drawing up the configuration of the premises, etc., the Social Welfare Department is unable to provide information on the distribution of the places by district and other details at this stage.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13 the Administration will provide employment support to employees with disabilities through provision of direct subsidy to employers for procurement of assistive rehabilitation device and workplace modifications; as well as provision of financial incentive to mentors identified who render workplace assistance and guidance to employees with disabilities. What are the details and the amount involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration will strengthen employment support for employees with disabilities through the following initiatives starting from 2012-13 –

- (a) providing subsidy to employers for procuring assistive rehabilitation device and carrying out workplace modification works to facilitate employees with disabilities to enhance their work efficiency. An annual provision of \$8 million has been earmarked for implementation of this initiative. We estimate that around 400 employees with disabilities would benefit from this scheme each year; and
- (b) providing financial incentive to workplace mentors of employees with disabilities to facilitate the latter to adapt to work smoothly. The mentor rendering workplace assistance to the same employee with disabilities for a period of not less than one month would receive a one-off award of \$500.

An annual provision of \$1.35 million has been earmarked for implementation of this initiative. We estimate that around 2 700 employees with disabilities would benefit from this scheme each year.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Social welfare organisations providing services for elders and persons with disabilities are facing acute shortage of allied health professions at present. As at 31 August 2011, Hong Kong Council of Social Service collected feedback from more than 700 service units for elders and persons with disabilities. Results showed that there were over 600 vacancies for nurses, physiotherapists and occupational therapists in the sector. The information is as follows –

Type of allied health professions	Staffing establishment		Strength	Number of vacancies	
Physiotherapist	310	237	(76.6%)	73	(23.4%)
Occupational Therapist	318	265	(83.3%)	53	(16.7%)
Registered Nurse (Psychiatric)	43	13	(30.2%)	30	(69.8%)
Enrolled Nurse (Psychiatric)	93	69	(74.1%)	24	(25.9%)
Registered Nurse (General)	557	505	(90.7%)	52	(9.3%)
Enrolled Nurse (General)	1 467	1 095	(74.6%)	372	(25.4%)

It is stated in the 2012-13 Budget that the Administration will increase resources to increase the number of degree places in nursing by 40 and allied health professions by 146. However, the Administration has all along been putting emphasis on dealing with the needs of the medical sector, while leaving the crisis of manpower shortage in social welfare organisations aside over the years. The problem of manpower shortage will be worsened with the increasing demand for allied health professions in the private market. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the specific plans and arrangements to address the problem mentioned above?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : To alleviate the manpower shortage of nurses in the welfare sector, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has collaborated with the Hospital Authority to organise the two-year Enrolled Nurse (EN) Training Programme for the welfare sector since 2006. A total of ten training classes have been organised. Two more classes of the EN Training Programme will be organised in 2012-13. These 12 classes will provide a total of nearly 1 500 training places. The training programme is fully subsidised by the Government. The trainees are required to sign an undertaking to work in the welfare sector continuously for two years upon graduation from the training programme.

To alleviate the manpower shortage of allied health professionals in the welfare sector, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University commenced the two-year Master in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy programmes in January 2012, providing a total of about 60 training places (about 30 for each discipline), and the graduates are expected to join the job market in early 2014. SWD has implemented a training sponsorship scheme at the same time to provide funding support for the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to sponsor the tuition fees of students enrolled to respective programmes. Students are required to serve at the relevant NGOs for no less than two years upon graduation.

The Government has also set up a Steering Committee on Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development to conduct a strategic review on healthcare manpower planning and professional development covering 13 healthcare disciplines which are subject to statutory regulation.

Furthermore, SWD has obtained additional resources of \$344 million from the Lotteries Fund for allocation to the welfare NGOs concerned for a further period of three years from 2012-13 to 2014-15 to enable them to offer more competitive salaries for the recruitment and retention of paramedical staff or for the hiring of paramedical services.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)141

Question Serial No.

2400

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) The Administration will inject \$100 million into the Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project (the Project) and extend the funding period from two years to three years. However, the maximum amount of grant for each business remains to be \$2 million. Would the Administration consider increasing the maximum amount of grant to \$3 million or above, in view of the increases in operating cost and difficulties in running the business, and the need to help social enterprises to enhance the employment opportunities for persons with disabilities?
- (b) How effective was the Project in the past three years? Please provide details of the numbers of applications and approved cases, the overall business situation (gain/loss), and the percentage of employees with disabilities involved in the business.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply : (a) Amongst the 70 business proposals already funded under the Project, only three business proposals were granted the maximum funding of \$2 million while the remaining funded projects were relatively small in scale. As at the end of December 2011, the average approved funding per business was about \$650,000, which was notably below the ceiling of \$2 million. At present, we have no plan to increase the maximum amount of grant per business. We will continue to keep under review the operation of the Project. With the proposed extension of funding period from two years to three years, we anticipate that, in general, the average approved funding per business would be increased.

(b) The requested information is as follows –

	Number of applications received	Number of applications approved	Total number of jobs created	Number of jobs created for persons with disabilities (% on payroll)	Approved fund (\$ million)
2008-09	8	7	70	49 (70%)	5.6
2009-10	9	8	65	50 (77%)	4.1
2010-11	7	6	58	36 (62%)	6.6

As at the end of December 2011, among the 21 businesses approved in the past three years, eight were still within the funding period, three ceased to operate after the funding period owing to expiry of venue contracts and ten continued to operate after the funding period. The sustainability of the businesses was considered to be satisfactory.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)142

Question Serial No.

2401

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) The Administration will provide direct subsidy to employers who employ employees with disabilities for procurement of assistive rehabilitation device and workplace modifications in 2012-13. In this connection, please specify the details of the total allocation of subsidy, the estimated number of beneficiaries (employers and employees), the maximum and minimum amounts of subsidy per employer, the scope of subsidy and the timetable for implementation; and
- (b) Financial incentive will also be provided to mentors identified who render workplace assistance to employees with disabilities. Please specify the details of the amount of financial incentive, the number of mentors and their qualifications.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : To enhance employment support for persons with disabilities, the Administration will take forward the following initiatives starting from 2012-13 –

- (a) providing subsidy to employers for procuring assistive rehabilitation device and carrying out workplace modification works to facilitate employees with disabilities to enhance their work efficiency. An annual allocation of \$8 million has been earmarked for implementation of this initiative. We estimate that around 400 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme each year; and

(b) providing financial incentive to workplace mentors of employees with disabilities to facilitate the latter to adapt to work smoothly. The mentor rendering workplace assistance to the same employee with disabilities for a period of not less than one month will receive a one-off award of \$500. An annual allocation of \$1.35 million has been earmarked for implementation of this initiative. We estimate that around 2 700 employees with disabilities will benefit from this scheme each year.

The Social Welfare Department is in the course of formulating the implementation details of the above initiatives.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the 2012-13 Budget, the Administration will continue to allocate funding for the provision of additional places for various types of services. Although there seems to have an increase of 7-18% in the number of places for some services including hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons, care-and-attention homes for severely disabled persons, supported hostels, day activity centres, early education and training centres and special child care centres, etc., the actual increase is only 0-4%. The relevant information is provided below –

Type of service	2011-12		2012-13 Planned number of places (c)	Apparent increase (c)-(b)	Actual increase (c)-(a)	Number of applicants on the waiting lists (as at the end of March 2011)
	Planned number of places (a)	Actual number of places (b)				
Halfway houses	1 509	1 509	1 534	25 (1.7%)	25 (1.7%)	784
Long stay care homes	1 507	1 507	1 582	75 (5.0%)	75 (5.0%)	1 116
Integrated vocational training centres	170	170	170	0	0	-
Integrated vocational rehabilitation services centres	4 257	4 257	4 257	0	0	-
Hostels for moderately mentally handicapped persons	2 357	2 287	2 377	90 (3.9%)	20 (0.9%)	1 386
Hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons	3 469	3 218	3 519	301 (9.4%)	50 (1.6%)	1 995
Hostels for severely physically handicapped persons	573	573	573	0	0	386

Type of service	2011-12		2012-13	Apparent increase	Actual increase	Number of applicants on the waiting lists (as at the end of March 2011)
	Planned number of places (a)	Actual number of places (b)	Planned number of places (c)	(c)-(b)	(c)-(a)	
Care-and-attention homes for severely disabled persons	958	908	988	80 (8.8%)	30 (3.3%)	361
Care-and-attention home for the aged blind	825	825	825	0	0	103
Small group homes	64	64	80	16 (25.0%)	16 (25.0%)	51
Supported hostels	594	554	594	40 (7.2%)	0 (0.0%)	1 001
Day activity centres	4 973	4 637	5 028	391 (8.4%)	55 (1.2%)	1 097
Early education and training centres	2 986	2 613	3 094	481 (18.4%)	108 (4.1%)	3 884 ^[Note 1]
Integrated programme in child care centres	1 860	1 860	1 860	0	0	1 271 ^[Note 1]
Occasional child care service	80	77	81	4 (5.2%)	1 (1.3%)	-
Special child care centres	1 880	1 757	1 883	126 (7.2%)	3 (0.2%)	1 186 ^[Note 1]
Sheltered workshops ^[Note 2]	5 069	4 999	5 019	20 (0.4%)	20 (0.4%)	2 543

[Note 1] The number of applicants on the waiting lists as at the end of December 2011.

[Note 2] 134 places of the sheltered workshop were re-engineered and incorporated into integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre in 2011-12, indicating that the number of places should be 4 935 (5 069 – 134) instead of 5 069 in 2011-12.

Furthermore, the number of applicants waitlisting for these services has exceeded 1 000. Please inform this Committee of how resources to be allocated to the above services will help reduce the number of applicants waitlisting for these services. What are the details of the plan in this regard?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has identified suitable premises/sites for provision of 627 additional places of residential care services, 607 additional places of pre-school services and 461 places of day training and vocational rehabilitation services in 2012-13. We will continue to proactively seek for suitable premises/sites for provision of services for persons with disabilities to meet the service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)144

Question Serial No.

2403

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will regularise the Transitional Care and Support Centre for Tetraplegic Patients (TCSC). This proves that the service is effective in providing continuous targeted support to severely physically handicapped persons. However, there is only one such centre in Ma On Shan throughout the territory. Why does the Administration not allocate more resources to provide additional service units and more places in other districts?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The TCSC, a 5-year pilot project funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club in 2008, provides time-defined and goal-oriented community-based rehabilitation programmes to tetraplegic patients discharged from hospital to facilitate their return to community living. The TCSC serves tetraplegic patients in the whole territory and referrals are made by medical officers or allied health professionals of hospitals or special clinics under the Hospital Authority.

In addition to the regularisation of the TCSC, to support and facilitate persons with severe disabilities living in the community, SWD has launched a range of community support services including district support centre for persons with disabilities, specialised home-based training and support service, community rehabilitation day centre etc. to provide them with rehabilitation training and their family members/carers with carer support services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)145

Question Serial No.

2405

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the pilot Bought Place Scheme (BPS) for private residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs), please provide the following information –

- (a) The pilot BPS for private RCHDs has been implemented by the Administration since 2010-11. Please inform this Committee of the waiting time for this Scheme in the past three years; and
- (b) Is there any assessment conducted on whether these additional residential care places can help ease the problem of prolonged waiting time. If yes, what is the actual waiting time shortened by the Scheme? If not, has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the Scheme at present?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The Social Welfare Department launched a four-year pilot BPS for private RCHDs in October 2010. The target is to purchase a total of around 300 places by phases during the pilot period. As at the end of January 2012, 60 BPS places had been purchased from two private RCHDs with an enrolment rate of 90%. Under the BPS, places are offered to applicants waitlisting for long stay care home or hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons. There is no separate waiting list for BPS.

- (b) As the waiting time is affected by a number of factors such as the location preference of applicants and the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., we cannot estimate to what extent the waiting time will be shortened by provision of these BPS places. A mid-term review on BPS will be conducted within 2012 having regard to operational experience, response of service users and private RCHDs, etc. so as to refine the operational

details as appropriate. An overall review of the scheme will also be conducted before its expiry to assess its effectiveness and long-term feasibility.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)146

Question Serial No.

2407

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information regarding foster care service on the following –

- (a) In the past three years, what were the numbers of emergency foster care (FC(E)) places and day foster care (FC(D)) places? What was the respective number of users? What was the age distribution of users of the respective service?
- (b) Among the 50 additional foster care places to be provided by the Administration in 2012-13, how many are for FC(E) and FC(D) respectively?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The required information on the FC(E) service is as follows –

		As at end 2009-10	As at end 2010-11	As at 31 January 2012 ^[Note 1]
Number of places		95	95	95
Number of children admitted		98 ^[Note 2]	97 ^[Note 2]	82
Age range of children admitted	0 - 6	67	64	53
	Over 6 - 12	27	28	27
	Over 12 - 18	4	5	2

[Note 1] Most updated figure for 2011-12.

[Note 2] To meet the unexpected demand for the FC(E) service, foster care operators may provide extra places on a temporary basis if needed.

As for FC(D), in view of the low utilisation rate of the service and the regularisation of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP), the Social Welfare Department has converted the 50 FC(D) places to ordinary foster care places in 2011-12 for better use of resources. As a transitional arrangement, however, service operators may continue to provide FC(D) service during the year.

Despite the phasing-out of FC(D), home-based day child care services will continue to be provided under NSCCP which was regularised and extended to all 18 districts in October 2011. Under NSCCP, at least 468 home-based child care places are provided over the territory.

The required information on the FC(D) service is as follows –

		As at end 2009-10	As at end 2010-11	As at 31 January 2012 ^[Note 3]
Number of places		50	50	– (service being phased out)
Number of children admitted		34	32	32
Age range of children admitted	0 – 6	22	13	14
	Over 6 - 12	12	18	17
	Over 12 - 18	0	1	1

[Note 3] Most updated figure for 2011-12.

- (b) In 2012-13, the number of FC(E) places will remain unchanged, and the FC(D) service will be phased out completely.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The cost per place per month for foster care increases from \$9,496 to \$11,111 in 2012-13, representing an increase of 17%. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The cost per place per month for foster allowance includes the foster care allowance for foster families and other operating costs to be borne by service operators and the Social Welfare Department. The 17% increase in the cost per place per month is owing to the full-year effect of the increase of foster care allowance.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)148

Question Serial No.

2409

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information on family aide workers regarding the following –

- (a) There will be two additional family aide workers in 2012-13. What was the average workload of family aide workers of the government sector and the subvented sector respectively in the past three years?
- (b) What criteria are adopted by the Administration in allocation of family aide workers?
- (c) Does the Administration have any plan to extend the coverage of family aide service to all Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) Family aide service aims at providing individuals/families in need with basic skills in personal care, household management and how to take care of other members of the family through systematic training programmes. According to the statistical information system for family aide service, the average numbers of cases with training programmes conducted by each family aide worker in IFSCs run by the Government and subvented non-governmental organisations were 62.8, 54.1 and 23.6 (half year figure) in 2009-10, 2010-11 and the first half of 2011-12 respectively.
 - (b) Family aide workers are deployed to IFSCs to facilitate casework intervention based on service needs and demand of individual districts.

- (c) Apart from engaging the service of family aide workers, social workers also refer needy individuals/families to other training programmes or draw on other community resources to meet their needs. The Social Welfare Department will continue to monitor the family aide service and keep in view of the service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)149

Question Serial No.

2410

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information on residential homes for children (RHCs) regarding the following –

- (a) What is the distribution of the 50 additional places of RHCs in 2012-13 by district?
- (b) What was the utilisation rate of RHCs in the past three years?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) The additional 50 places will be provided through in-situ expansion of existing RHCs located in accessible locations over the territory.
 - (b) The utilisation rate of RHCs was 89.8% in 2009-10, 88.0% in 2010-11 and 86.7% from April to December 2011.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)150

Question Serial No.

2411

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13, the cost per place per month for small group homes increases from \$15,584 to \$15,800, representing an increase of 1.38%, which is lower than the inflation rate. What are the reasons for that? Will the service quality be affected as a result?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The unit cost of small group home service has increased from \$15,584 to \$15,800 in the 2012-13 estimate. The cost per place per month comprises subventions for Personal Emoluments (PE) and Other Charges (OC). The subvention for the 2012-13 estimate is based on the same level of staff cost as in the 2011-12 revised estimate while costs other than staff cost have been adjusted according to the Composite Consumer Price Index. Since other costs form a relatively small part of the unit cost, the increase in the unit cost per month for small group homes is not significant. The staff cost in 2012-13 may be further adjusted after the 2012-13 civil service pay adjustment, which will then be reflected in the unit cost in the 2012-13 revised estimate.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)151

Question Serial No.

2855

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information regarding family and child protection cases on the following –

- (a) The original estimated number of family and child protection cases in 2011-12 was 9 161, but later adjusted to 8 400 in the revised estimate. What are the reasons for the substantial decrease of the actual number against the original estimate?
- (b) The actual numbers of family and child protection cases in 2009-10 and 2010-11 and the revised estimate in 2011-12 are 9 996, 9 214 and 8 400 respectively. What are the reasons for the decline?
- (c) Given the trend of a decline in the number of family and child protection cases in the past three years, why is the estimated number of family and child protection cases in 2012-13 shows a rebound to 8 669?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) The original estimated number of supervision cases served in 2011-12 was projected based on the actual number of supervision cases served in previous years. As the actual number of closed cases in 2010-11 was more than the estimated number, the number of cases carried forward to 2011-12 was less than the original estimate.
 - (b) With various service improvement measures introduced in recent years, which include providing victim support programme for victims of family violence, enhancing support services like refuge centres for women and childcare services, strengthening the multi-disciplinary collaboration among relevant professionals and deploying supporting staff to assist social workers, the effectiveness of the Family and Child Protective Services Units in helping victims of child abuse and spouse/cohabitant battering, their families and the abusers has been enhanced. The average time required to complete the helping process

has thus been shortened, resulting in more cases closed upon achievement of the treatment goals and fewer number of active supervision cases being handled by the social workers.

- (c) In view of the increase in the number of new cases handled during the period from January to September 2011, it is estimated that there will be an increase in the number of supervision cases in 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will set up three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2012-13.

Among the three new IFSCs, one will be run by the government sector. In which district will this IFSC be located? For the remaining two IFSCs to be run by the subvented sector, which districts will they be located?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The locations of the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected growth and profile of the population, etc.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)153

Question Serial No.

2857

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information regarding Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) on the following –

- (a) What is the respective population size of the districts for which the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will serve?
- (b) What is the respective population size, number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients, elderly population, number of single parent families of the districts for which the existing 62 IFSCs serve? (Please provide relevant information in a table.)
- (c) Does the Administration have any plan to improve the ratio between the provision of IFSCs and the population size of the districts served for service enhancement? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) The three new IFSCs will each serve a well-defined geographical boundary with a population of around 100 000 to 150 000.
 - (b) We do not have information on the number of CSSA recipients, elderly persons and single parent families within the geographical boundary served by each of the 62 IFSCs. For the population served by each IFSC, most of them are between 100 000 to 150 000 by district.
 - (c) In the consultancy report “Review on the Implementation of the IFSC Service Mode” published in February 2010, the consultancy team concluded that the current principle of providing an IFSC for every 100 000 to 150 000 persons is reasonable and appropriate and should be maintained. The Social Welfare Department will continue to monitor the service needs and make appropriate adjustments for service enhancement if and when necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)154

Question Serial No.

2858

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information regarding the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) on the following –

- (a) The Administration stated in the 2010-11 and 2011-12 estimates that the estimated numbers of groups and programmes to be organised by the subvented sector were 2 036 and 2 036 respectively, whereas the actual number in 2010-11 and the number in the 2011-12 revised estimate were 2 722 and 2 862 respectively. The Administration had seriously underestimated the number of groups and programmes to be organised in two consecutive years at the respective rates of 25.2% and 28.9%. Will the Administration improve the reliability and accuracy of the estimates?
- (b) With the setting up of two new IFSCs run by the subvented sector in 2012-13, why is the estimated number of groups and programmes still kept at 2 129?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) IFSCs may, according to service needs, organise more groups and programmes than the output level required in the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs). The fact that the numbers of groups and programmes provided by IFSCs in the 2010-11 and 2011-12 estimates are larger than that for 2012-13 is attributable to the fact that the former reflect the actual number of groups and programmes organised, whereas the latter is the required output. There is no underestimation involved.

- (b) As in previous years, the estimated number of groups and programmes provided by IFSCs in 2012-13 reflects only the aggregate of respective output indicator of the FSAs rather than the actual number of groups and programmes to be provided. With the setting up of three new IFSCs in 2012-13, the number is expected to rise from 2 036 in the 2011-12 estimate to 2 129.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Amongst the cases handled by Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in the past three years, what were the numbers of cases handled by the government and the subvented sectors related to housing issues involving the Housing Department (e.g. family splitting and transfer)? What was the ratio of such cases to the total number of cases handled?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The percentages of cases related to housing problems served by IFSCs remain steady over the past years. The required figures are set out below –

Financial year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Average number of cases served by IFSCs per month	46 503	46 965	45 849
Average number of cases served by IFSCs related to housing problems per month	6 693 (14.4%)	7 215 (15.4%)	6 601 (14.4%)

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information regarding Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) on the following –

- (a) What are the floor areas of the premises of the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13?
- (b) How much is the floor area of each of the new IFSCs varied from the Social Welfare Department's prescribed floor area for IFSC premises?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) & (b) The standard net operational floor area (NOFA) of an IFSC is 535 m². However, the actual NOFA for individual IFSCs, including the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13, may vary depending on their actual staff establishment and the configuration of the premises.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information regarding Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) on the following –

- (a) Amongst the 62 existing IFSCs, how many are occupying floor areas less than the Social Welfare Department (SWD)'s prescribed floor area for IFSC premises? What are the reasons for that?
- (b) What assistance will be offered to IFSCs occupying insufficient floor areas to ensure service quality? Please elaborate.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) There are constraints in identifying suitable and accessible premises within a well-defined service boundary for IFSCs. Thus, the exact floor areas of the 62 IFSCs would vary. At present, 38 IFSCs are occupying spaces larger than or close to their entitled floor area.
 - (b) SWD has endeavoured to identify suitable premises for the relocation of those IFSCs with space provision below the entitlement. As an interim measure, these IFSCs would endeavour to make use of available premises from other welfare service units or community organisations in their respective localities to facilitate their service delivery.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the estimates of the Administration in 2012-13 regarding the total numbers of staff and Social Security Assistants (SSAs) in each of the 38 Social Security Field Units (SSFUs) in the territory, and what is the average number of cases to be processed by an SSA per day?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : With the strengthening of the overall manpower and the splitting of a large SSFU into two field units, it is estimated that there will be about 1 350 posts in 39 SSFUs in 2012-13. Among them, about 980 posts are in the SSA grade.

The Social Welfare Department is committed to providing assistance and services to all social security applicants/recipients in a timely manner. SSA grade staff are responsible for handling various types of cases with different natures and levels of complexity. We do not have statistics on the average number of cases processed by an SSA grade staff per day.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the indicators for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, the Administration estimated that the “waiting time before a client is attended to in field units” will be 10 minutes in 2012-13. In this regard, what is meant by “attended to”?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : It means staff of the Social Security Field Units (SSFUs) of the Social Welfare Department will receive the CSSA recipients and listen to their requests when they turn up at the SSFUs, and start offering appropriate assistance to them.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration estimates that the number of cases served under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme will increase from 711 400 in 2011-12 to 752 400 in 2012-13. Will the Administration increase the manpower of the field units correspondingly to cope with the increase in caseload? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department is committed to the timely processing of applications for SSA. To cope with the increase in the number of SSA cases, five posts in the Social Security Assistant grade have been created, and three additional posts in the same grade will be created, in various Social Security Field Units in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively to provide the necessary additional manpower support.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to set up an additional neighbourhood elderly centre (NEC) in 2012-13. Where will this NEC be located? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : In 2012-13, one new NEC will be set up at the Public Rental Housing Development at Site 1A in Kai Tak Development, Kowloon City District. The NEC will commence service in early 2013 and the estimated annual expenditure is \$2 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 57 of the Budget Speech that the Administration will increase the recurrent funding for Dementia Supplement by \$137 million. What are the details of this plan? Is the additional funding restricted to engaging professional staff only? If yes, please provide information on the limitations on and criteria for the use of this funding. If no, how does the Administration ensure that the additional funding is spent on people with dementia?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : To enhance the support for demented elders in subvented residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), private RCHEs under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and subsidised day care centres or units (DEs/DCUs), an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS). The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

The breakdown of the additional allocation of DS is as follows –

Type of service units	Additional allocation (\$ million)
Subvented RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	127.5
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	9.7

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in EBPS and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

With the allocation of DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services in accordance with their individual needs. RCHEs are required to report information on staff employment and/or purchase of services to SWD annually for verification of the use of DS. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary and are required to report to SWD the information on the provision of training programmes/services for frail and demented elders annually.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)163

Question Serial No.

2867

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to increase the average cost per place per month for day care centres/units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) from \$6,663 in 2011-12 to \$6,695 in 2012-13. Is the increase sufficient to offset inflation? If not, will this affect the quality of the services provided?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : In increasing the cost per place per month in DEs/DCUs from \$6,663 in 2011-12 to \$6,695 in 2012-13, the Administration has taken into consideration the rise in operational expenses. We will keep in view the service needs of the users and the service quality of DEs/DCUs as appropriate.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)164

Question Serial No.

2868

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration is planning to provide 225 additional places in day care centres for the elderly/day care units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) in 2012-13. How will the places be distributed between full-time users and part-time users?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : In 2012-13, 225 additional day care places for the elderly are expected to commence service. Since some elders only need a half-day place or have no need to attend the centres every day, it is therefore possible for the DEs/DCUs to take in additional elders, i.e. part-time users, to fill in the unused time slots and places. Though the Social Welfare Department has not specified the number of full-time and part-time users, service operators of DEs/DCUs are required to arrange the attendance of the service users according to their care needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)165

Question Serial No.

2869

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration estimates that the number of cases served for enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) will increase drastically from 5 600 in 2011-12 to 6 500 in 2012-13.

- (a) In this connection, how much is the additional expenditure for EHCCS when compared with 2011-12?
- (b) What were the respective numbers of EHCCS teams and workers in the past three years?
- (c) What are the respective numbers of EHCCS teams and workers in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) As compared with the revised estimate for 2011-12, there will be an increase of \$80.2 million in the expenditure for EHCCS in 2012-13.
 - (b) There were 24 EHCCS teams in the past three years. Though the Social Welfare Department has not specified any staff establishment, each EHCCS team should ensure an appropriate and adequate staff mix to handle the cases.
 - (c) In 2012-13, the number of EHCCS teams will remain the same and each team should continue to have an appropriate and adequate staff mix.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2010-11 and 2011-12 Estimates, the planned number of places to be provided in small group homes (SGH) for mentally handicapped persons was 80. However, both the actual number in 2010-11 and the revised estimate in 2011-12 were only 64.

The Administration plans to increase the number of SGH places from 64 to 80 in 2012-13. Does the Administration have any concrete plan in achieving the estimated number so as to ensure that the target will not be slipped again like what happened in the past two years?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department will closely monitor the progress and collaborate with parties concerned in the process of securing suitable premises, conducting local consultation, application for change in land use, etc. with a view to meeting the pledged target.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)167

Question Serial No.

2871

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2010-11 and 2011-12 Estimates, the planned numbers of places for supported hostels (SHOSs) were 590 and 594 respectively. However, both the actual number in 2010-11 and the revised estimate in 2011-12 were only 554.

The Administration plans to increase the number of SHOS places from 554 to 594 in 2012-13. Does the Administration have any concrete plan in achieving the estimated number so as to ensure that the target will not be slipped again like what happened in the past two years?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The preparation work for providing 40 additional SHOS places is on schedule and the service will commence in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)168

Question Serial No.

2872

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the 2011-12 Budget, the Administration planned to increase the number of day activity centre (DAC) places from 4 632 to 4 973. However, in the 2012-13 Budget, the figure shown in the 2011-12 revised estimate is substantially decreased to 4 637 and there is only an increase of five additional places as compared with the previous year. What are the reasons for such a difference from the original estimate?

As stated in the 2012-13 Budget, there will be an increase of 391 DAC places as compared with the previous year. How will the Administration ensure that the places can be delivered?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has reserved additional recurrent allocation to provide 341 additional places for DAC in 2011-12. Only five additional places have been provided due to the longer than expected time required for conducting local consultations, securing the allocation of premises and carrying out refurbishment or fitting-out works.

The Administration has reserved additional recurrent allocation and identified suitable premises for provision of an additional 391 DAC places in 2012-13. The Social Welfare Department will closely monitor the progress of work and step up efforts in collaboration with parties concerned in the process of local consultation, application for change in land use, seeking funding allocation to meet the cost of fitting-out works, with a view to meeting the target delivery date.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Does the Administration keep any information on the number of social worker, nurse, psychiatric nurse and occupational therapist employed and served in each integrated community centre for mental wellness (ICCMW) in the previous year? If yes, please set out in table the number of the above four professionals served in each ICCMW. If no, how does the Administration monitor the use of allocation to ensure that it was spent on the subsidised services?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing, including social worker, nurse, psychiatric nurse and occupational therapist, to ensure service quality and meet service needs. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) monitors the service performance of subvented NGOs, including that of ICCMWs, through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, SWD assesses and monitors the performance standards of subvented NGOs through their regular reports to SWD and SWD's scheduled and surprise visits to their subvented service units on a random basis.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)170

Question Serial No.

2874

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Among the 16 district support centres for persons with disabilities (DSCs), what are the numbers of centres with and without centre premises? Among the DSCs with centre premises, what are the numbers of centres meeting and not meeting the standard of 345 square metres; as set out under the Schedule of Accommodation (SoA)?

What are the measures taken by the Administration to help those DSCs with SoA not meeting the standard of 345 square metres; and those without centre premises to secure premises?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has successfully secured premises for 11 DSCs and identified suitable premises at development projects for four DSCs. Among the DSCs which have secured premises, the SoA of four of them is slightly below the standard owing to premises configuration. SWD will continue to identify suitable premises for the remaining DSC. In the meantime, SWD has given funding support for rental expenses incurred for setting up a temporary DSC at suitable commercial premises.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)171

Question Serial No.

2875

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2010, the number of criminal cases handled by the Magistrates' Courts, District Court and High Court was 37 896, 1 404 and 444 respectively. Among those cases, what were the number and percentage of cases requiring court social work service (CSWS)? What are the criteria for assessing a case's need for CSWS and whether the manpower of CSWS is sufficient to meet the above demand at present?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : CSWS aims to render enquiry and counselling services to individuals in conflict with the law and help them and their families alleviate stress and anxiety associated with prosecution. It delivers services mainly at the Magistrates' Courts and would also render services at the District Court and High Court upon request. The CSWS workers intake cases based on their professional assessment. In 2010, the number of intake cases by CSWS was 248, which is less than 1% of the number of criminal cases (i.e. 39 784) handled by all courts. The breakdown of intake cases by different level of courts is not available.

The numbers of intake cases by CSWS for 2009, 2010, and 2011 were 265, 248 and 242 respectively, indicating a decline in demand of the service. We consider the existing manpower of CSWS adequate in handling the service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)172

Question Serial No.

2876

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The number of social workers serving in social service centres for ex-offenders (the centres) remained at 47 in the past three years. The Administration estimates that the number of social workers serving in the centres will continue to remain at 47 in 2012-13. However, the average monthly caseload per social worker serving in the centres is as many as 97.

How will the Administration reduce the workload of the social workers serving in the centres in order to enhance service quality?

Does the Administration have any plan to provide additional manpower and resources to the centres? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of cases supervised per worker per month in the centres were 102, 98, 97 and 97^[Note] for 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. The number is estimated to remain at 97 for 2012-13.

In view of the decreasing trend in the caseload in the past four years, the existing manpower of the centres should be adequate to handle the current demand of service. The Administration has no plan to increase the manpower and resources of the service for the time being.

^[Note] Revised estimate figure.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)173

Question Serial No.

2877

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the reasons for the Administration to estimate that the number of school social work cases served will increase from 26 028 to 27 864 in 2012-13? While there will be an increase in the number of school social work cases served, and the number of school social workers will remain at 574, why does the average caseload per worker still remain at 83?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : There has been a 20% increase in manpower, i.e. 96 additional school social workers (SSWs) with effect from September 2011. The figure 26 028 has taken into account the part-year workload of the additional SSWs in 2011-12 whereas the estimated figure of 27 864 has taken into account the full-year workload of the additional SSWs in 2012-13.

The caseload per worker is calculated by dividing the overall number of cases served by the number of SSWs throughout the year. Although there will be an increase in the number of cases served in 2012-13 estimate, this is due to the full-year effect of the additional SSWs in 2012-13. The caseload per SSW is estimated to remain the same as that of 2011-12.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In the three years between 2010-11 to 2012-13, only 50 additional places will be provided in 2012-13 for residential homes for children, representing an increase of less than 3%.

Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What is the projected demand for residential homes for children in the coming five years?
- (b) What is the basis for the provision of the additional 50 places in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) & (b) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has all along been closely monitoring the demand for residential child care services through a central referral system (CRS). The CRS captures the number of children referred by social workers for residential care service. To meet the service demand and reduce waiting time, SWD has, in 2008-09 and 2009-10, provided an additional 100 residential child care places. We have also streamlined the referral and processing/ admission procedures for the services and improved the case management mechanism. The Administration will further provide an additional 100 places (i.e. 50 residential home places and 50 foster care places) in 2012-13 and an additional 30 small group home places in 2013-14.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)175

Question Serial No.

2883

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will set up three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2012-13. When will the three new IFSCs commence operation?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The three new IFSCs will tentatively commence operation by end-2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What was the respective number of (a) intensive counselling; (b) brief counselling; and (c) supportive casework cases served by the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) run by the government sector and the subvented sector in the past six years?

	Intensive counselling	Brief counselling	Supportive casework
2005-06			
2006-07			
2007-08			
2008-09			
2009-10			
2010-11			

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : According to the statistical information system for IFSCs, the breakdown of the numbers of intensive counselling and brief counselling/supportive casework cases served by IFSCs from 2005-06 to 2010-11 is listed below –

Financial Year	Number of intensive counselling case served	Number of brief counselling/ supportive casework case served ^[Note]
2005-06	37 467	35 577
2006-07	41 828	38 669
2007-08	44 540	38 439
2008-09	46 468	40 394
2009-10	47 134	42 534
2010-11	46 552	41 874

[Note] There is no breakdown of the number of brief counselling/supportive casework cases.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) Please provide details of residential care places for various rehabilitation services.

Type of service	2010				
	Number of places	Applicants on waiting list	Average waiting time	Anticipated increase in residential care places	Actual increase in residential care places
Hostel for severely mentally handicapped persons					
Hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons					
Hostel for severely physically handicapped persons					
Supported hostel					
Care-and-attention home for severely disabled persons					
Small group home for mildly mentally handicapped children					
Halfway house					
Long stay care home					
Care-and-attention home for the aged blind					

Type of service	2011				
	Number of places	Applicants on waiting list	Average waiting time	Anticipated increase in residential care places	Actual increase in residential care places
Hostel for severely mentally handicapped persons					
Hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons					
Hostel for severely physically handicapped persons					
Supported hostel					
Care-and-attention home for severely disabled persons					
Small group home for mildly mentally handicapped children					
Halfway house					
Long stay care home					
Care-and-attention home for the aged blind					

(b) If the actual increase in residential care places is less than the estimated number, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The requested information is as follows –

Type of	2010
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	Places (as at the end of December 2010)	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2010)	Average waiting time in 2009-10 (in months)	Planned additional places (2009-10)	Actual additional places (2009-10)
HSMH	3 193	2 032	68.4	201	46
HMMH	2 269	1 407	79.1	155	0
HSPH	573	405	61.9	45	0
SHOS	482	1 037	15.3	150	0
C&A/SD	908	382	39.6	100	50
SGH(MMHC)	64	52	23.1	24	8
HWH	1 509	784	6.2	0	0
LSCH	1 507	1 113	31.8	100	0
C&A/AB	825	89	3.2	0	0

Type of service	2011				
	Places (as at the end of December 2011)	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2011)	Average waiting time in 2010-11 (in months)	Planned additional places (2010-11)	Actual additional places (2010-11)
HSMH	3 193	2 015	73.2	315	135
HMMH	2 287	1 365	80.4	173	91
HSPH	573	396	38.6	45	45
SHOS	554	972	25.0	190	154
C&A/SD	908	369	39.6	100	51
SGH(MMHC)	40	62	22.4	16	0
HWH	1 509	697	8.2	0	0
LSCH	1 507	1 174	38.2	100	100
C&A/AB	825	90	4.0	0	0

Legend:

HSMH – hostel for severely mentally handicapped persons

HMMH – hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons

HSPH – hostel for severely physically handicapped persons

SHOS – supported hostel

C&A/SD – care-and-attention home for severely disabled persons

SGH(MMHC) – small group home for mildly mentally handicapped
children/integrated small group home

HWH – halfway house

LSCH – long stay care home

C&A/AB – care-and-attention home for the aged blind

- (b) Additional residential care places could not be provided as planned because of the longer than expected time required for conducting local consultations, securing the allocation of premises and carrying out refurbishment or fitting-out works, etc.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 58 of the Budget Speech that “We shall allocate \$900 million under the Lotteries Fund (LF) to improve the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 district elderly community centres (DECCs), neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs) and social centres for the elderly (SEs) across the territory. This will enhance the community support service for elderly people and their carers.”

Will the facilities include the high-tech equipment like visual chat room so as to enhance the communication of the elders, and encourage them to connect and chat with their family members living far apart and young people. If yes, please give the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department will seek funding of \$900 million from the LF with a view to improving the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 elderly centres, i.e. 41 DECCs, 118 NECs, 51 SEs and 40 self-financing centres for the elderly. Service operators will have the flexibility to use the funding to improve the facilities, including those relating to information technology, according to the needs of the elders.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Most of the 7-seater vehicles equipped for overnight outreaching service for young night drifters have been used for many years, and their equipment and functions have become unable to meet the service needs.

- (a) Does the Department have any regular arrangements for the replacement of the vehicles and upgrading their functions? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Does the Department have any plans to replace the vehicles and upgrade their functions in the next two years? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) Does the Department have any statistics on maintenance days for the vehicles? If yes, what were the numbers of maintenance days for the vehicle of each team per year from January 2006 to December 2010?
- (d) If the statistics mentioned in (c) above are not available, would the Department consider collecting the statistics as early as possible? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) & (b) Each of the 18 overnight outreaching teams for young night drifters has been provided with a 7-seater vehicle to facilitate service delivery since commencement of service. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have the flexibility in deploying the allocation to meet operating costs, including the costs incurred from maintenance, regular checks and repair of vehicles. If replacement of vehicles is required, NGOs may consider applying for funding from the Lotteries Fund to meet the expenses.

- (c) & (d) As the NGOs concerned are responsible for the maintenance of the vehicles, they are not required to provide details of the maintenance of vehicles to the Social Welfare Department.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)180

Question Serial No.

3059

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the annual allocations for the Work Extension Programme (WEP) in the past three years and the coming year? (Please give reply in table form)

What are the respective costs per place per month of sheltered workshop (SW) and WEP in the past three years and the coming year? (Please give reply in table form)

	Annual provision per programme	Cost per place per month	
	WEP	SW	WEP
2009-10			
2010-11			
2011-12			
2012-13			

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The annual allocations for SW from 2009-10 to 2012-13 are as follows –

2009-10 (Actual) (\$ million)	2010-11 (Actual) (\$ million)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2012-13 (Estimate) (\$ million)
230.8	233.7	244.1	239.5 ^[Note]

[Note] The reduction in allocation was due to conversion of places from SW to integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre.

The monthly unit costs of subvented SW place from 2009-10 to 2012-13 are as follows –

2009-10 (Actual) (\$)	2010-11 (Actual) (\$)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$)	2012-13 (Estimate) (\$)
3,612	3,658	3,817	3,854

Since WEP is an enhanced service which forms part of the services of SW, the financial allocation and unit cost of WEP have been subsumed under those of SW.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)181

Question Serial No.

3135

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) At present, how many subvented residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) have converted their self-care (S/C) hostel or home for the aged (H/A) places into care-and-attention (C&A) places providing a continuum of care?
- (b) How many subvented RCHEs have not yet completed the planned conversion of their S/C hostel or H/A places into C&A places providing a continuum of care? What are the reasons for not completing the conversion? Does the Administration have any measures to assist the RCHEs to complete the conversion as soon as possible?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply : (a) The conversion of self-care S/C hostels/H/A and C&A homes without a continuum of care involves 75 subvented RCHEs. Currently, 69 subvented RCHEs are being converted into C&A homes which provide a continuum of care.
- (b) In order to minimise disturbance to the existing residents, the conversion programme is implemented in phases based on a vacancy-led approach to be carried out gradually through natural wastage or change in the care level of existing residents. Therefore it may take a few years for a RCHE to be fully converted physically. To speed up the physical conversion works, the Social Welfare Department had simplified the funding process such that RCHEs were given a choice to apply for lump sum funding under the Lotteries Fund.

As at the end of January 2012, of the 31 funding applications for physical conversion, 16 had been approved. Two RCHEs had completed the conversion works. The remaining 15 applications are being processed.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)182

Question Serial No.

3136

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out the locations and housing estates where the Administration plans to set up subsidised residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) in the coming five years.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : From 2011-12 to 2014-15, eight new contract RCHEs will commence operation with details as follows –

District	Location of planned RCHEs
Sham Shui Po	Un Chau Estate
Islands	Man Tung Road, Tung Chung
Yau Tsim Mong	Tai Kok Tsui Road
Yau Tsim Mong	Willow Street
Central & Western	First Street
Yau Tsim Mong	Hoi Wang Road / Hoi Ting Road
Sha Tin	Tai Wai
Sham Shui Po	Shek Kip Mei Estate Phase II

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Over the past five years, the waiting time for subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) and nursing home (NH) places was as long as 20 odd months and 40 odd months respectively. Does the Administration have any plan to increase residential care places substantially in the coming five years in order to address the problem of the long waiting time for such places? If yes, what are the details? Has the Administration set any target for shortening the waiting time of elders for residential care places? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration will continue to devote additional resources to provide more residential care places for the elderly. From 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream with details as follows –

Type of residential care places	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
NH Places	365	507	233	154
C&A Places	644	712	15	12
Total	1 009	1 219	248	166

In addition to the above-mentioned new places, we have earmarked sites in another nine development projects for the construction of new contract RCHEs. We will continue to earmark sites in public housing estate developments, private developments, vacant government premises and schools for provision of residential care services for the elderly.

The additional places will help ease the pressure on waiting time. As the waiting time for subsidised RCS places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes; whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home; the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13, the Administration will provide 25 additional places in halfway houses (HWHs) and 75 additional places in long stay care homes (LSCHs) for discharged mental patients. What is the distribution by district of these additional places, and their percentage in relation to the total number of people waitlisting for these residential services at present?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Since the provision of the additional places is still at the preparatory stage, including local consultation, drawing up the configuration of the premises, etc., the Social Welfare Department is unable to provide detailed information on the district distribution of places at this stage. As at the end of December 2011, the numbers of applicants for HWH and LSCH were 697 and 1 174 respectively.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will hive off two sheltered workshop-cum-hostels originally operated by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to the subvented sector for continuous operation in 2012-13. Will there be any increase or decrease in the resources involved? If yes, what will be the differences in expenditures for the two units in 2011-12 and 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Director of Audit recommended in its Report No. 42 on “Value for Money Audit on Training, Employment and Residential Services for People with Disabilities” in 2004 that SWD should outsource the operation of the rehabilitation service units to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for achieving better cost-effectiveness in service delivery. Along this direction, SWD has been hiving off its rehabilitation services to NGOs by phases and will transfer the operation of the two departmental rehabilitation service units to NGOs with effect from 1 April 2012. Allocations at a total annual amount of about \$21 million^[Note] will be provided to the operating NGOs for continuous provision of the service.

The estimated expenditure for services provided by the government sector reflects the full cost which covers non-cash expenditure, such as depreciation, while the estimated expenditure for the subvented sector is the net allocation after deducting the fee income. Given the difference in the calculation mechanism for expenditure of services provided by the two sectors, it is not appropriate to make direct comparison of expenditures between the government and subvented sector.

[Note] The amount covers personal emoluments and other charges after deducting recognised fee income. While separate allocations for purchase of furniture and equipment will also be provided to the operating NGOs, rent and rates will be reimbursed on an actual cost basis.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Two sheltered workshops (SWs) and hostels currently operated by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will be hived off to the subvented sector in 2012-13. What are the reasons for this change?
- (b) Will the staff originally employed by SWD who are working in the above two SWs and hostels continue their services in these two SWs and hostels after the hiving-off? If yes, what are the employment arrangements involved? If not, will service users face the problem of all the original staff being replaced by other staff within a short period of time? If yes, how does the Administration evaluate the impact on service users as a result of this change? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The Director of Audit recommended in its Report No. 42 on “Value for Money Audit on Training, Employment and Residential Services for People with Disabilities” in 2004 that SWD should outsource the operation of the rehabilitation service units to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for achieving better cost-effectiveness in service delivery. Along this direction, SWD has been hiving off its rehabilitation services to NGOs by phases. The two departmental rehabilitation service units, namely Wing Lung Bank Golden Jubilee Sheltered Workshop and Hostel and Hang Ngai Manufacturing and Hostel, will be handed over to NGOs for continuous operation in April 2012. The hive-off plan will also avoid the situation where the Director of Social Welfare is both the operator of the residential care homes for persons with disabilities and the regulating authority upon implementation of the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613) on 18 November 2011.

- (b) The civil service posts of the two units will be redeployed to other service units of the Government upon the transfer of operation to the NGOs on 1 April 2012. Subventions are provided for the two NGOs to arrange for suitable staffing to continue providing the service. To facilitate smooth adjustment of service users to the change of operators, subvention for a preparatory period of three months (i.e. from 1 January 2012) has been provided to the NGO takers prior to the target handover date of 1 April 2012 during which NGO staff will work along side with Government staff for familiarisation of service operation and with the service users. Besides, SWD and the NGOs have worked out a detailed hand-over plan to minimise the adjustment caused to the service users arising from the hiving off.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)187

Question Serial No.

3141

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to provide 90 additional places in hostels for moderately mentally handicapped persons (HMMHs) in 2012-13. What is the distribution by district of these additional places, and the ratio of these additional provisions in relation to the number of applicants waiting for HMMH service?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Since the provision of 90 additional hostel places for moderately mentally handicapped persons is still at the preparatory stage, including local consultation, application for change in land use, drawing up configuration of the premises, etc., we are unable to provide detailed information on the district distribution of places at this stage. As at the end of December 2011, there were 1 365 applicants applying for services of HMMH. We will continue to proactively seek other suitable premises/sites for provision of residential care services to meet the service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration had overestimated the numbers of hostel places for severely mentally handicapped persons provided by subvented organisations for two consecutive years. The estimated numbers of hostel places for severely mentally handicapped persons in 2010-11 and 2011-12 were 3 373 and 3 469 respectively. However, the actual figure in 2010-11 and the revised estimate in 2011-12 were only 3 193 and 3 218, which were reduced by 180 and 251 places respectively as compared to the original estimate. What are the reasons for the deviations in the said two estimates? How will the Administration avoid the recurrence of the deviation between the actual figure and the estimates in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has planned to provide 276 additional hostel places for severely mentally handicapped persons in 2011-12. Only 25 places have been provided owing to the longer than expected time required for conducting local consultations, securing the allocation of premises and completing the fitting-out works, etc.

The Administration has identified suitable premises for provision of 301 additional hostel places for severely mentally handicapped persons in 2012-13. The Social Welfare Department will closely monitor the progress of work and step up efforts in collaborating with parties concerned in the process of local consultation, application for change in land use, etc. with a view to meeting the pledged target.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)189

Question Serial No.

3143

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The number of places of hostels for severely physically handicapped persons (HSPHs) remained to be 573 for three consecutive years.

- (a) What was the number of applicants waitlisting for places of HSPH in the past three years?
- (b) What was the waiting time for places of HSPH in the past three years?
- (c) What was the number of new applicants waitlisting for places of HSPH in each of the past three years?
- (d) What was the number of vacancies of HSPH arising from discharge of cases in each of the past three years?
- (e) Will the Administration plan to increase the number of places of HSPH in the next three years? If yes, please give the details. If not, how will the Administration improve the waitlisting situation of HSPH?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) to (d) The requested information is as follows –

Year	Number of applicants (as at the end of the financial year)	Average waiting time (in months)	Number of new applicants	Number of discharged cases
2008-09	386	112.4	64	6
2009-10	410	61.9	73	5
2010-11	370	38.6	85	8

- (e) The Administration has identified suitable premises/sites for provision of about 627 additional places of various types of

residential care services for persons with disabilities in 2012-13, amongst which 381 places (or 61%) will be for persons with severe disabilities. We will continue to proactively seek for suitable premises/sites for provision of residential care services for persons with disabilities to meet the service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In the past two years, the Administration estimated that the numbers of places for care-and-attention homes for severely disabled persons (C&A/SD) would be 957 and 958 in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. However, both the actual number and the revised estimate of the places are only 908 in these two years.

The Administration estimates that the number of places for C&A/SD will be increased from 908 as stated in the revised estimate for 2011-12 to 988 in 2012-13. Does the Administration have any concrete plan in achieving the estimated number so as to ensure that the target will not be slipped again like what happened in the past two years?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has identified suitable premises for the provision of 80 additional C&A/SD places in 2012-13. The Social Welfare Department will closely monitor the progress of work and step up efforts in collaborating with parties concerned in local consultation, application for change in land use, etc. with a view to meeting the pledged target.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In the 2011-12 Budget, the Administration estimated that the number of places to be provided in early education and training centres (EETCs) would be increased to 2 986. However, in the 2012-13 Budget, the number of places in the revised estimate is 2 613 only. What are the reasons for a difference of 373 places?

The Administration plans to provide 481 additional EETC places in 2012-13. Is the Administration confident in ensuring that the estimated number of additional places can be achieved? If yes, what is the distribution of the additional places by district? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has planned to provide 608 additional places for EETC in 2011-12. Only 235 places have been provided due to the longer than expected time required for conducting local consultations, securing the allocation of premises and completing the fitting-out works, etc.

The Administration has identified suitable premises for provision of 481 EETC places in 2012-13. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will closely monitor the progress of work and step up efforts in collaborating with parties concerned in the process of local consultation, application for change in land use, etc. with a view to meeting the pledged target. Since the provision of these places is still at the preparatory stage, SWD is unable to provide detailed information on the distribution of these additional service provision at this stage.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)192

Question Serial No.

3146

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2010-11 and 2011-12, the planned numbers of places to be provided in special child care centres (SCCCs) were 1 754 and 1 880 respectively. However, the actual number in 2010-11 and the revised estimate in 2011-12 were only 1 646 and 1 757 respectively.

The Administration plans to increase the number of SCCC places from 1 757 to 1 883 in 2012-13. Does the Administration have any concrete plan in achieving the estimated number so as to ensure that the target will not be slipped again like what happened in the past two years?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has identified suitable premises for the provision of 126 additional SCCC places in 2012-13. The Social Welfare Department will closely monitor the progress of work and step up efforts in collaborating with parties concerned in local consultation, application for change in land use with a view to meeting the pledged target.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2010-11 estimate, the planned provisions in special child care centres (SCCCs) and the special provision for autistic children in SCCC were 1 754 and 186 respectively. In 2011-12, the planned provisions of SCCCs and the special provision for autistic children in SCCC were 1 880 and 186 respectively. However, the actual number in 2010-11 and the revised estimate in 2011-12 for SCCCs and the special provision for autistic children in SCCC were only 1 646 and 1 757 in total respectively. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : In the 2011-12 revised estimate, a total of 1 757 SCCC places are provided for pre-school children with various types of disabilities, including children with autism. The Administration has reserved additional recurrent allocation to provide an additional 234 SCCC places in 2011-12. Only 111 places have been provided owing to the longer than expected time required for conducting local consultations, securing the allocation of premises and completing the fitting-out works, etc. The special provision for autistic children is an enhanced service which forms part of service of SCCC, hence its provision has been subsumed under that of SCCC.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)194

Question Serial No.

3148

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the services of sheltered workshops (SWs) –

- (a) The Administration plans to provide 20 additional places for SWs in 2012-13. What is the geographical distribution of these places? What is the ratio of these additional places to the number of applicants waiting for places of SWs?
- (b) There will be 20 additional places for SWs in the coming year, but no increase for integrated vocational rehabilitation services centres. How will the Administration solve the problem of long waiting time for SWs? How will the Administration help those waiting for the services of SWs?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) & (b) In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) plans to provide 20 additional SW places in a residential care home cum SW for persons with disabilities in Sai Kung district. As at the end of December 2011, there were 2 457 applicants waitlisting for SW. We will continue to proactively seek for suitable premises/sites for provision of SW to meet the service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)195

Question Serial No.

3149

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information in table form –

- (a) age profile of the service users of sheltered workshops (SWs) and day activity centres (DACs) in the past three years; and
- (b) number of the service users aged 50 or above served at SWs (including Work Extension Programme (WEP)) and DACs (including Extended Care Programme (ECP)) in the past three years.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The requested information is as follows –

Age	Number and percentage of service users in SW (including WEP)			Number and percentage of service users in DAC (including ECP)		
	2009 ^[Note]	2010 ^[Note]	2011 ^[Note]	2009 ^[Note]	2010 ^[Note]	2011 ^[Note]
15-30	1 145(22.4%)	1 109(21.7%)	1 072(21.0%)	1 575(35.4%)	1 511(33.7%)	1 498(32.5%)
31-50	2 852(55.8%)	2 839(55.4%)	2 752(54.0%)	2 164(48.7%)	2 159(48.3%)	2 227(48.4%)
over 50	1 117(21.8%)	1 173(22.9%)	1 273(25.0%)	708(15.9%)	805(18.0%)	881(19.1%)
Total	5 114(100%)	5 121(100%)	5 097(100%)	4 447(100%)	4 475(100%)	4 606(100%)

^[Note] Figures as at the end of December of the year.

Based on the statistical information captured by the Social Welfare Department about 25% of the service users of SW (including WEP) and 19% of the service users of DAC (including ECP) were aged over 50 as at the end of December 2011.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)196

Question Serial No.

3185

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The number of people waitlisting for services of sheltered workshops (SWs) and day activity centres (DACs) has been increasing over the past five years. Does the Administration have any plan to set up additional SWs and DACs in the coming five years to shorten the waiting list? If there is a concrete plan, what are the details? If not, what will the Administration do to meet the training needs of persons with disabilities waitlisting for the services?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has planned to provide additional 461 places of DAC and SW in 2012-13. The Administration will continue to make proactive efforts in identifying suitable premises for increasing the service provision of DAC and SW to meet the service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under the Work Extension Programme (WEP) and the Extended Care Programme (ECP), sheltered workshops (SWs) and day activity centres (DACs) participating in the WEP and ECP are required to admit 15 or 10 additional service users to fill up the vacant places in SWs and DACs after arranging 15 or 10 service users to participate in WEP and ECP respectively. However, SWs and DACs operating WEP and ECP are not provided with additional space under WEP and ECP, resulting in the lack of space of SWs and DACs participating in these two programmes and thus affecting the service quality and the safety of service users. Does the Administration have any plan in providing additional space for SWs and DACs participating in WEP and ECP in future? If yes, what are the details of the plan? If not, how does the Administration ensure the safety of trainees and the service quality in a crowded environment?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has since October 2005 implemented the WEP and ECP programmes at SW/integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre and DAC to cater for the caring/nursing needs of trainees who may not be able to cope with intensive training owing to their old age or deterioration in health conditions and work capacities. While SWD has no plan to increase the number of places of WEP or ECP, we would examine the appropriate level of resources allocated for these services and issues related to the ageing of service users in rehabilitation services through a Task Group set up in December 2011.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)198

Question Serial No.

3187

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration estimates that the number of medical social workers (MSWs) will remain at 431 in 2012-13, and the number of cases served by medical social services will increase from 180 152 in the revised estimate for 2011-12 to 181 413 in the estimate for 2012-13. However, the estimated caseload per worker will reduce from 66 to 64. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The figure of 181 413 is the estimated total number of cases served by the 431 MSWs of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in the year of 2012-13, whereas the average caseload of 64 per MSW is the estimated average number of active cases in hand at the end of each month during the same period. Noting that the number of attendances in hospitals and clinics of the Hospital Authority has been on the rise, the total number of cases served by MSWs is, therefore, expected to increase from 180 152 in the revised estimate for 2011-12 to 181 413 in the estimate for 2012-13. However, with the creation of an additional 31 MSW posts by phases in 2011-12 in SWD, the overall effect of the increase in manpower and the resulting decrease in the average number of caseload per MSW will be reflected in 2012-13, i.e. a decrease from 66 in the revised estimate for 2011-12 to 64 in the estimate for 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the 2011-12 revised estimate, the cost per place per month of sheltered workshops (SWs) operated by the government sector is \$4,785, which is \$968 more than that of SWs operated by the subvented sector (i.e. \$3,817). What are the reasons for the cost difference?

Two SWs currently operated by the government sector will be hived off to the subvented sector in 2012-13. Does the Administration intend to reduce the cost by this hiving-off? If yes, does the Administration plan to hive off other services (e.g. integrated family service centres, family and child protective services units, field units and medical social work, etc.) operated by the government sector to the subvented sector in future? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : As stated in the Controlling Officer's Report, we could not draw any direct comparison between the cost per place per month for the government and subvented sectors. The cost figures for the government sector reflect the full cost of services rendered by the Social Welfare Department (SWD), which cover other non-cash expenditure such as depreciation, etc. On the other hand, the cost figures for the subvented sectors are the net total allocation after taking fee income into account.

The Director of Audit recommended in its Report No. 42 on "Value for Money Audit on Training, Employment and Residential Services for People with Disabilities" in 2004 that SWD should outsource the operation of the rehabilitation service units to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for achieving better cost-effectiveness in service delivery. Along this direction, SWD has been hiving off its rehabilitation services to NGOs by phases. The two departmental rehabilitation service units, namely Wing Lung Bank Golden Jubilee Sheltered Workshop and Hostel and Hang Ngai Manufacturing and Hostel, will be handed over to NGOs for continuous operation in April 2012. In addition, hiving-off these two units, which also operate residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs), will

avoid the situation where the Director of Social Welfare is both the operator of RCHDs and the regulating authority under the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613). SWD does not have any hiving-off plan for other operational units under its management at this stage.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13, the Administration estimates that the costs per place per month for day activity centre (DAC) and sheltered workshop (SW) are \$6,859 and \$3,854 respectively. The cost for DAC is nearly double that of SW. What are the reasons for such a difference? What are the differences in staffing provision between the two services?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a range of day training and vocational rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, designed with different service objective and scope. DAC provides day care and training for persons with severe intellectual disabilities aged 15 and above who are unable to benefit from vocational training or sheltered employment. They will be trained to become more independent in their daily lives and to prepare them for better integration into the community or for transition to other forms of service or care where appropriate. SW provides persons with disabilities who are not yet able to take up open employment with appropriate vocational training in a specially designed work environment, in which they can learn to adjust to normal work requirements, develop social skills and relationships, and prepare for potential advancement to supported and open employment. As such, the cost per place of DAC and that of SW are not comparable. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, while the operating non-governmental organisations (NGOs) of DAC are required to provide professional staff like social workers, nurses and other supporting staff, and the operating NGOs of SW are required to provide social workers and other

supporting staff. NGOs concerned have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The caseload per school social worker (SSW) has reached 83. Does the Administration have any plan to increase the number of SSWs in future so as to reduce the caseload per worker, thereby improving the quality of service?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : School social work services have been enhanced with a 20% increase in manpower, i.e. 96 additional SSWs, with effect from September 2011. The Social Welfare Department will continue to monitor the workload and performance of the enhanced school social work services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)202

Question Serial No.

3192

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the pilot cyber youth outreaching projects, what was/is the allocation and expenditure last/this year? When will the Administration review the effectiveness and allocation of the pilot projects?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned three non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to each launch a pilot cyber youth outreaching project with funding support from the Lotteries Fund. Each pilot project has been allocated a grant of \$5.2 million for the implementation of the project for three years with effect from August 2011. The NGOs are given the flexibility to adjust the manpower and other related costs throughout the implementation period.

SWD has commissioned the Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention of the University of Hong Kong to conduct an evaluative study to assess the feasibility, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the three pilot projects, and to make recommendations on the way forward. The study will be completed by the end of 2014.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases under the low-earnings category for the past five years as well as the following information –

	Family with members aged 65 or above	Family with members aged below 15	Full-time/ long-term employment	Part-time/ casual employment	Living in public housing	Living in private housing
2007-08						
2008-09						
2009-10						
2010-11						
2011-12						

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The statistics on CSSA low-earnings cases in the past five years were as follows^[Note 1] _

Year	Number of CSSA low-earnings cases			
	With recipients aged 65 or above	With recipients aged below 15	Living in public housing	Living in private housing
2007-08	3 191	10 206	12 637	2 629
2008-09	2 938	9 193	11 513	2 397
2009-10	2 910	8 830	11 357	2 492

Year	Number of CSSA low-earnings cases			
	With recipients aged 65 or above	With recipients aged below 15	Living in public housing	Living in private housing
2010-11	2 730	8 026	10 483	2 377
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	2 376	6 704	8 732	2 047

Year	Number of CSSA recipients with employment earnings in low-earnings cases	
	With full time / long-term employment ^[Note 2]	With part time / casual employment ^[Note 3]
2007-08	13 891	1 093
2008-09	12 444	1 019
2009-10	12 562	1 141
2010-11	11 651	1 150
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	9 620	1 187

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 2] Refers to those with number of working hours per month no less than 120 hours.

[Note 3] Refers to those with number of working hours per month less than 120 hours.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)204

Question Serial No.

3199

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out, by category of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases, the number of cases having left the CSSA net and the reasons for leaving the CSSA net in each of the past five years (i.e. 2007-08 to 2011-12).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases closed in the past five years by case nature and by closure reason are set out below –

Closure reason \ Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed ^[Note] during the financial year 2007-08						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	128	10 768	251	194	2 082	178	13 601
Permanent disability	2	248	72	117	794	94	1 327
Ill health	11	440	103	394	1 676	169	2 793
Single parent	11	8	128	508	3 882	85	4 622
Low-earnings	7	7	102	313	3 398	31	3 858
Unemployment	56	147	335	2 420	5 236	362	8 556
Others	8	7	17	251	750	155	1 188
Total	223	11 625	1 008	4 197	17 818	1 074	35 945

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed ^[Note] during the financial year 2008-09						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	102	11 366	270	162	2 122	239	14 261
Permanent disability	6	265	74	81	688	94	1 208
Ill health	24	466	90	349	1 487	218	2 634
Single parent	18	11	101	403	3 162	115	3 810
Low-earnings	12	7	70	215	2 844	89	3 237
Unemployment	74	170	261	1 713	3 594	408	6 220
Others	7	13	30	192	738	130	1 110
Total	243	12 298	896	3 115	14 635	1 293	32 480

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed ^[Note] during the financial year 2009-10						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	70	11 222	250	156	2 003	220	13 921
Permanent disability	6	275	97	72	677	82	1 209
Ill health	9	502	88	286	1 357	198	2 440
Single parent	15	10	90	376	2 876	83	3 450
Low-earnings	4	5	69	199	2 306	57	2 640
Unemployment	19	159	266	1 839	3 751	450	6 484
Others	5	17	40	278	802	114	1 256
Total	128	12 190	900	3 206	13 772	1 204	31 400

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed ^[Note] during the financial year 2010-11						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	81	11 268	281	233	2 090	156	14 109
Permanent disability	4	268	86	89	687	77	1 211
Ill health	10	500	94	300	1 458	186	2 548
Single parent	9	11	97	447	3 122	73	3 759
Low-earnings	3	6	81	256	2 591	29	2 966
Unemployment	20	134	253	1 807	4 085	420	6 719
Others	1	11	24	315	891	156	1 398
Total	128	12 198	916	3 447	14 924	1 097	32 710

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed during the financial year 2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old age	44	8 678	220	171	2 147	157	11 417
Permanent disability	0	187	56	61	639	70	1 013
Ill health	5	373	67	210	1 330	137	2 122
Single parent	6	9	82	272	2 729	52	3 150
Low-earnings	1	5	75	139	2 398	40	2 658
Unemployment	15	112	210	1 147	3 297	285	5 066
Others	1	11	16	239	770	140	1 177
Total	72	9 375	726	2 239	13 310	881	26 603

[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the table are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)205

Question Serial No.

3200

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients who had secured employment and left the CSSA net after joining various employment assistance projects in the past five years.

Year	Support for Self-reliance (SFS) Scheme	Active Employment Assistance (AEA) Programme	Community Work (CW) Programme	New Dawn (ND) Project
2007-08				
2008-09				
2009-10				
2010-11				
2011-12				

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA recipients who had secured employment and left the CSSA net after joining various employment assistance projects in the past five years from 2007-08 to 2011-12 were as follows –

Year	SFS Scheme ^[Note]	ND Project
2007-08	1 583	367
2008-09	828	91
2009-10	1 390	152
2010-11	1 376	72
2011-12 (up to the end of December 2011)	953	118

[Note] The SFS Scheme includes the AEA Programme (with components including the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme and the Special

Training and Enhancement Programme) and the CW Programme. The Department does not have breakdown on the numbers of CSSA recipients who had secured employment and left the CSSA net after joining these two programmes under the SFS Scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)206

Question Serial No.

3201

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients who had been on CSSA for over three years and five years respectively in the following five years.

Age \ Year	Number of recipients receiving CSSA for over three years				Number of recipients receiving CSSA for over five years			
	15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59
2007-08								
2008-09								
2009-10								
2010-11								
2011-12								

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA recipients who had received CSSA for more than three years and more than five years respectively with breakdown by age group in the past five years were as follows –

Age Group Year	The numbers of CSSA recipients ^[Note] who had received CSSA for more than three years				The numbers of CSSA recipients ^[Note] who had received CSSA for more than five years			
	15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59	15-24	25-39	40-49	50-59
2007-08	46 731	24 635	46 318	39 678	36 277	15 076	33 450	29 483
2008-09	45 610	23 369	44 440	40 530	38 168	16 120	35 036	32 599
2009-10	45 628	22 468	43 242	41 414	39 503	16 250	35 448	34 659
2010-11	42 221	20 838	40 797	40 523	37 130	15 615	34 108	34 636
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	38 555	19 460	38 206	39 098	33 860	14 643	31 969	33 561

^[Note] Except for 2011-12, the numbers of CSSA recipients were figures as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)207

Question Serial No.

3202

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the numbers of new Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases and the numbers of cases in which recipients left the CSSA net in each of the following five years –

Age	Number of new CSSA cases			Number of cases in which recipients left the CSSA net		
	Below 15	15-59	60 or above	Below 15	15-59	60 or above
2007-08						
2008-09						
2009-10						
2010-11						
2011-12						

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The total numbers of new CSSA cases were 46 807 in 2007-08, 56 935 in 2008-09, 52 734 in 2009-10, 46 834 in 2010-11 and 33 884 in 2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012); and the number of closed CSSA cases during the same periods were 35 945, 32 480, 31 400, 32 710 and 26 603 respectively. We do not have readily available statistics on the breakdown of the above numbers by age group.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)208

Question Serial No.

3203

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases with rent allowance granted in the following three years and the expenditure involved.

	Number of CSSA cases with rent allowance granted	Total expenditure on rent allowance
2009-10		
2010-11		
2011-12		

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases receiving rent allowance and the actual/estimated CSSA expenditures involved in the past three years were as follows ^[Note] –

Year	Number of CSSA cases receiving rent allowance	CSSA expenditure on rent allowance (\$ million)
2009-10	250 152	3,016
2010-11	247 667	2,831
2011-12	241 770 (as at the end of January 2012)	2,180 (up to the end of December 2011)

[Note] Except for 2011-12, the figures are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases of the following categories, of which the recipients living in private housing are paying rents higher than the maximum levels of rent allowance (MRA) -

- (a) Elders
- (b) Persons in ill-health
- (c) Persons with disabilities
- (d) Unemployed persons
- (e) Persons with low earnings
- (f) Single parent

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases in private housing receiving rent allowance with the actual rent higher than the MRA by case nature as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Case nature	Number of CSSA cases with the actual rent higher than the MRA
Old age	7 194
Permanent disability	1 045
Ill health	2 691
Single parent	4 572
Low-earnings	1 212
Unemployment	4 536
Others	1 438
Total	22 688

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will set up three additional outreaching social work teams (OSWTs) in 2012-13 –

- (a) How will these three additional OSWTs be distributed by district? How much is the additional expenditure incurred?
- (b) What are the reasons for setting up these three additional OSWTs? Will additional overnight outreaching teams for young night drifters be provided? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) In 2012-13, three additional OSWTs will be set up in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung to reach out to more youths at risk. The additional expenditure incurred is about \$12 million per annum.
 - (b) The setting up of three additional OSWTs aims to enhance support services for youths at risk and better tackle the growing problem of juvenile gangs in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung. The Social Welfare Department will commission non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate these additional teams through invitation of proposals. The service design, including the operating hours of the new OSWTs, will be subject to the proposals of the selected NGO operators.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases in private housing receiving rent allowance with actual rent less than, equal to or higher than the maximum levels of the rent allowance (MRA) for the following three years –

(a) Year 2009-10

Household size	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1-person			
2-person			
3-person			
4-person			
5-person			
6-person or above			

(b) Year 2010-11

Household size	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1-person			
2-person			
3-person			
4-person			
5-person			
6-person or above			

(c) Year 2011-12

Household size	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1-person			
2-person			
3-person			
4-person			
5-person			
6-person or above			

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases in private housing receiving rent allowance with actual rent less than, equal to or higher than the MRA (with breakdown by the number of eligible members) in the past three years were as follows
[Note] _

(a) 2009-10

Number of eligible members	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1	6 944	740	13 971
2	5 605	162	4 655
3	3 228	25	2 814
4	1 310	0	1 242
5	320	8	442
6 and above	198	0	168
Total	17 605	935	23 292

(b) 2010-11

Number of eligible members	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1	6 281	691	13 445
2	5 353	141	4 842
3	2 990	19	2 900
4	1 173	1	1 205
5	279	5	453
6 and above	172	0	190
Total	16 248	857	23 035

(c) 2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)

Number of eligible members	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1	5 636	580	12 984
2	4 669	92	4 918
3	2 559	15	2 870
4	1 011	1	1 260
5	256	4	454
6 and above	127	0	202
Total	14 258	692	22 688

^[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the tables are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases in public housing estates receiving rent allowance with actual rent less than, equal to or higher than the maximum levels of the rent allowance (MRA) for the following three years –

(a) Year 2009-10

	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1-person			
2-person			
3-person			
4-person			
5-person			
6-person or above			

(b) Year 2010-11

	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1-person			
2-person			
3-person			
4-person			
5-person			
6-person or above			

(c) Year 2011-12

	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1-person			
2-person			
3-person			
4-person			
5-person			
6-person or above			

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases in public housing receiving rent allowance with the actual rent less than, equal to or higher than the MRA (with breakdown by the number of eligible members) in the past three years were as follows
[Note] _

(a) 2009-10

Number of eligible members	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1	65 755	60	2 519
2	44 080	2	206
3	23 677	0	48
4	13 862	0	27
5	5 324	2	10
6 and above	1 924	0	1
Total	154 622	64	2 811

(b) 2010-11

Number of eligible members	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1	66 764	77	3 307
2	44 397	2	315
3	22 614	0	46
4	12 332	0	38
5	4 425	0	11
6 and above	1 573	0	2
Total	152 105	79	3 719

(c) 2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)

Number of eligible members	Actual rent less than MRA	Actual rent equal to MRA	Actual rent higher than MRA
1	67 542	78	3 384
2	44 005	2	329
3	21 019	0	56
4	10 828	0	30
5	3 761	1	8
6 and above	1 362	1	2
Total	148 517	82	3 809

^[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the tables are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases in public housing estates and private housing with actual rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance (MRA) for the following three years –

(a) Year 2009-10

	Exceeded by \$1-\$99	Exceeded by \$100-\$499	Exceeded by \$500-\$999	Exceeded by \$1,000 or above
1-person				
2-person				
3-person				
4-person				
5-person				
6-person or above				

(b) Year 2010-11

	Exceeded by \$1-\$99	Exceeded by \$100-\$499	Exceeded by \$500-\$999	Exceeded by \$1,000 or above
1-person				
2-person				
3-person				
4-person				
5-person				
6-person or above				

(c) Year 2011-12

	Exceeded by \$1-\$99	Exceeded by \$100-\$499	Exceeded by \$500-\$999	Exceeded by \$1,000 or above
1-person				
2-person				
3-person				
4-person				
5-person				
6-person or above				

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases in public and private housing receiving rent allowance with the actual rent exceeding the MRA (with breakdown by the amount of actual rent exceeding the MRA) for the past three years were as follows ^[Note] _

(a) 2009-10

Number of eligible members	Public housing (Amount of actual rent exceeding MRA)				Private housing (Amount of actual rent exceeding MRA)			
	Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more	Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more
1	477	1 748	272	22	3 360	6 398	2 846	1 367
2	60	100	25	21	661	1 955	1 006	1 033
3	11	12	12	13	186	1 053	754	821
4	3	15	6	3	102	399	316	425
5	2	4	2	2	22	116	110	194
6 and above	0	0	0	1	33	34	47	54
Total	553	1 879	317	62	4 364	9 955	5 079	3 894

(b) 2010-11

Number of eligible members	Public housing (Amount of actual rent exceeding MRA)				Private housing (Amount of actual rent exceeding MRA)			
	Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more	Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more
1	865	1 536	843	63	3 064	5 828	2 924	1 629
2	105	125	63	22	640	1 957	1 109	1 136
3	6	20	11	9	171	1 029	714	986
4	5	18	7	8	95	358	270	482
5	1	6	1	3	19	114	103	217
6 and above	0	2	0	0	28	36	51	75
Total	982	1 707	925	105	4 017	9 322	5 171	4 525

(c) 2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)

Number of eligible members	Public housing (Amount of actual rent exceeding MRA)				Private housing (Amount of actual rent exceeding MRA)			
	Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more	Less than \$100	\$100 – less than \$500	\$500 – less than \$1,000	\$1,000 or more
1	805	1 755	788	36	2 787	5 418	2 888	1 891
2	117	138	52	22	535	1 887	1 180	1 316
3	9	18	23	6	158	1 000	665	1 047
4	2	15	6	7	88	363	274	535
5	1	5	0	2	13	108	86	247
6 and above	0	0	0	2	19	34	62	87
Total	934	1 931	869	75	3 600	8 810	5 155	5 123

[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the tables are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)214

Question Serial No.

3232

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of fraud and abuse cases on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) in the following three years –

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Total number of CSSA cases			
Reported fraud and abuse cases			
Established fraud and abuse cases			

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The numbers of fraud cases on CSSA in the past three years were –

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of December 2011)
Total number of CSSA cases	287 822	282 732	276 710
Reported fraud cases	3 061	2 935	2 267
Established fraud cases	950	1 014	634

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)215

Question Serial No.

3233

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) Please list out the number of students by type on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) in the following districts for the following three years –

	2009				2010				2011			
	Kindergartens	Primary students	Secondary students	University students	Kindergartens	Primary students	Secondary students	University students	Kindergartens	Primary students	Secondary students	University students
Central & Western												
Eastern												
Southern												
Wan Chai												
Kowloon City												
Kwun Tong												
Sham Shui Po												
Yau Tsim Mong												
Wong Tai Sin												
Islands												
Kwai Tsing												
North												
Sai Kung												
Sha Tin												
Tai Po												
Tsuen Wan												
Tuen Mun												
Yuen Long												

(b) What was the amount of CSSA provided to students in each of the years by the Administration from 2009 to 2011?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The numbers of CSSA child recipients in the past three years by education level and geographical district were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Education level ^[Note 2] (as at the end of December 2009)				Total
	Kindergarten	Primary	Secondary	Others ^[Note 3]	
Central & Western	110	311	334	20	775
Eastern	505	1 571	2 392	145	4 613
Islands	447	1 556	1 894	93	3 990
Kowloon City	592	1 449	1 872	96	4 009
Kwai Tsing	1 421	4 574	6 550	341	12 886
Kwun Tong	1 653	5 160	8 164	567	15 544
North	874	2 419	3 502	150	6 945
Sai Kung	381	1 788	3 271	202	5 642
Sha Tin	856	2 742	4 589	237	8 424
Sham Shui Po	1 169	3 200	4 171	225	8 765
Southern	217	831	1 176	71	2 295
Tai Po	382	1 215	1 935	101	3 633
Tsuen Wan	416	1 254	1 583	75	3 328
Tuen Mun	958	2 972	3 970	194	8 094
Wan Chai	54	192	116	3	365
Wong Tai Sin	811	2 793	5 127	298	9 029
Yau Tsim Mong	584	1 350	1 224	43	3 201
Yuen Long	1 737	6 146	8 825	445	17 153
Total	13 167	41 523	60 695	3 306	118 691

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Education level ^[Note 2] (as at the end of December 2010)				Total
	Kindergarten	Primary	Secondary	Others ^[Note 3]	
Central & Western	95	294	321	14	724
Eastern	509	1 559	2 169	183	4 420
Islands	382	1 373	1 821	93	3 669
Kowloon City	582	1 401	1 605	111	3 699
Kwai Tsing	1 304	4 109	5 906	381	11 700
Kwun Tong	1 686	5 116	7 637	640	15 079

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Education level ^[Note 2] (as at the end of December 2010)				
	Kindergarten	Primary	Secondary	Others ^[Note 3]	Total
North	846	2 322	3 149	203	6 520
Sai Kung	325	1 514	2 889	229	4 957
Sha Tin	783	2 545	4 127	304	7 759
Sham Shui Po	1 162	3 057	3 924	248	8 391
Southern	223	749	1 106	90	2 168
Tai Po	369	1 108	1 672	123	3 272
Tsuen Wan	354	1 151	1 476	92	3 073
Tuen Mun	910	2 699	3 593	244	7 446
Wan Chai	51	162	107	4	324
Wong Tai Sin	808	2 629	4 595	324	8 356
Yau Tsim Mong	521	1 274	1 146	48	2 989
Yuen Long	1 732	5 592	8 041	532	15 897
Total	12 642	38 654	55 284	3 863	110 443

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Education level ^[Note 2] (provisional figures) (as at the end of December 2011)				
	Kindergarten	Primary	Secondary	Others ^[Note 3]	Total
Central & Western	67	223	262	12	564
Eastern	477	1 334	1 986	73	3 870
Islands	297	1 057	1 612	42	3 008
Kowloon City	544	1 196	1 455	53	3 248
Kwai Tsing	1 105	3 327	5 215	152	9 799
Kwun Tong	1 437	4 417	6 955	256	13 065
North	703	2 001	2 811	52	5 567
Sai Kung	288	1 177	2 519	86	4 070
Sha Tin	712	2 150	3 578	115	6 555
Sham Shui Po	991	2 463	3 484	106	7 044
Southern	209	547	964	44	1 764
Tai Po	346	956	1 566	45	2 913
Tsuen Wan	343	1 042	1 394	32	2 811
Tuen Mun	779	2 096	3 115	84	6 074

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Education level ^[Note 2] (provisional figures) (as at the end of December 2011)				
	Kindergarten	Primary	Secondary	Others ^[Note 3]	Total
Wan Chai	55	134	130	2	321
Wong Tai Sin	774	2 241	4 155	129	7 299
Yau Tsim Mong	441	953	1 019	22	2 435
Yuen Long	1 494	4 342	7 093	190	13 119
Total	11 062	31 656	49 313	1 495	93 526

[Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] A person can be assisted to receive education up to the secondary level under the CSSA Scheme provided that he/she is under the age of 22.

[Note 3] Including institutes under the Vocational Training Council and commercial schools.

(b) We do not have breakdown of the CSSA expenditure provided to students.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)216

Question Serial No.

3234

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients in the following 18 districts, broken down by the categories below –

Geographical district	Able-bodied adult	Adult with a disability	Able-bodied child	Child with a disability	Elderly person	Household with able-bodied adult(s)	Household without able-bodied adult(s)
Central & Western							
Eastern							
Southern							
Wan Chai							
Kowloon City							
Kwun Tong							
Sham Shui Po							
Yau Tsim Mong							
Wong Tai Sin							
Islands							
Kwai Tsing							
North							
Sai Kung							
Sha Tin							
Tai Po							
Tsuen Wan							
Tuen Mun							
Yuen Long							

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (i) The numbers of CSSA recipients, as at the end of January 2012, by category and by geographical district were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Number of CSSA recipients				
	Able-bodied adults	Disabled ^[Note 2] adults	Able-bodied children	Disabled ^[Note 2] children	Elderly aged 60 or above
Central & Western	578	553	653	33	2 349
Eastern	3 371	2 811	4 334	196	10 298
Islands	2 426	845	3 516	82	2 175
Kowloon City	3 073	2 267	3 863	126	8 588
Kwai Tsing	9 164	5 577	11 573	332	18 557
Kwun Tong	12 218	6 148	15 131	470	28 390
North	4 788	2 859	6 471	193	9 192
Sai Kung	3 378	2 472	4 439	165	5 476
Sha Tin	5 962	4 135	7 518	314	12 012
Sham Shui Po	7 470	4 206	8 342	300	16 306
Southern	1 592	2 244	2 054	109	6 194
Tai Po	2 588	1 948	3 232	190	7 016
Tsuen Wan	2 307	1 288	3 111	91	5 914
Tuen Mun	6 000	5 214	7 342	248	13 736
Wan Chai	365	223	365	4	1 281
Wong Tai Sin	6 899	4 124	8 180	347	15 991
Yau Tsim Mong	3 437	1 498	3 153	71	5 660
Yuen Long	12 242	5 901	15 318	464	15 056
Total ^[Note 3]	87 858	54 313	108 595	3 735	184 191

(ii) The numbers of CSSA recipients, as at the end of January 2012, in family cases with/without able-bodied adult by geographical district were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Number of CSSA recipients	
	In family cases with at least one able-bodied adult	In family cases without any able-bodied adult
Central & Western	1 101	482
Eastern	7 577	4 986
Islands	5 986	1 270
Kowloon City	6 292	3 572
Kwai Tsing	20 981	9 580
Kwun Tong	27 878	15 610
North	10 770	4 890
Sai Kung	8 061	3 053
Sha Tin	13 620	7 337
Sham Shui Po	13 953	7 406
Southern	3 684	2 926
Tai Po	5 971	3 490
Tsuen Wan	5 256	2 747
Tuen Mun	12 780	7 350
Wan Chai	485	233
Wong Tai Sin	15 178	8 141
Yau Tsim Mong	4 853	1 966
Yuen Long	27 168	8 339
Total ^[Note 3]	191 594	93 378

Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] Disabled adults/children refer to those receiving a standard rate for persons with 50% disabilities, 100% disabilities or requiring constant attendance, and persons who are medically certified to be in ill-health.

[Note 3] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)217

Question Serial No.

3236

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the number of CSSA households living in public housing estates, and the number as a percentage of the total number of households in public housing estates, and the expenditure involved;
- (b) the number of CSSA recipients living in public housing estates, and the number as a percentage of the total population in public housing estates;
- (c) the numbers of different CSSA households currently living in public housing estates broken down by the following nature of cases –
 - (i) single person cases: able-bodied adult, adult with a disability/in ill health, able-bodied child, child with a disability/in ill health, and elderly person;
 - (ii) household cases with able-bodied adult(s); and
 - (iii) household cases without able-bodied adult(s).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply :
- (a) There were 165 643 CSSA cases in public housing as at the end of January 2012. It represented about 23% of the total households in public housing. Information on expenditures on these CSSA cases is not readily available.
 - (b) There were 302 632 CSSA recipients in public housing as at the end of January 2012. It represented about 14% of the total population in public housing.

(c) The numbers of CSSA cases^[Note 1] in public housing with breakdown by selected parameters as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

(i) The number of CSSA singleton cases with breakdown by category

	Number of CSSA singleton cases (as at the end of January 2012)
Able-bodied adult	5 798
Disabled adult ^[Note 2]	12 438
Able-bodied child	1 170
Disabled child ^[Note 2]	44
Elderly aged 60 or above	55 638

(ii) There were 48 879 CSSA family cases with at least one able-bodied adult living in public housing as at the end of January 2012.

(iii) There were 34 404 CSSA family cases without able-bodied adult living in public housing as at the end of January 2012.

[Note 1] Only CSSA cases with payment as at the end of January 2012 are included.

[Note 2] Disabled adults/children refer to those receiving a standard rate for persons with 50% disabilities, 100% disabilities or requiring constant attendance and persons who are medically certified to be in ill-health.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) Regarding the Anti-violence Programmes (AVPs) of the Social Welfare Department (SWD), please provide relevant information in the following table –

	2009	2010	2011
Number of spouse battering cases handled by the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of SWD			
Number of successful applications for injunctions in spouse battering cases handled by FCPSUs of SWD			
Number of participants of Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP) organised by FCPSUs of SWD			
Estimated number of participants of AVPs			
Actual number of participants of AVPs			

(b) How will SWD increase the utilisation rate of AVPs?

(c) Will SWD consider amending the legislation to require mandatory participation by spouse/partner batterers in therapeutic services on problems of domestic violence?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The relevant statistical information is as follows –

	2009	2010	2011
Number of spouse/cohabitant battering cases handled by FCPSUs of SWD	6 594	5 986	5 456
Number of successful applications for injunctions in spouse battering cases handled by FCPSUs of SWD	SWD does not have such information.		
Number of participants of BIP organised by FCPSUs of SWD	96	81	74
Estimated number of participants of AVPs	Participants are referred by the Court and SWD cannot estimate the number.		
Actual number of participants of AVPs	2	0	0

- (b) SWD has maintained liaison with the Family Court, Hong Kong Law Society and Legal Aid Department, etc. to promote AVP.
- (c) There is already a provision under the Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance that the Court may in granting an injunction require the batterer to participate in any programme approved by the Director of Social Welfare, i.e. AVP. The Administration has no plan to propose legislative amendment.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)219

Question Serial No.

3238

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in the 2012-13 Budget Speech that the recurrent funding for Dementia Supplement (DS) would be increased by \$137 million, allowing eligible residential care homes and day care centres or units for the elderly to have more resources for engaging professional staff (including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers) or procuring related professional services for the provision of proper care to every demented service user.

Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the actual amount of DS that will be received by each eligible residential care home and day care centre or unit for the elderly for every demented service user in 2012-13. How is the above amount calculated?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : To enhance the support for demented elders in subvented residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), private RCHEs under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and subsidised day care centres or units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs), an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of DS. The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation of DS for each qualified case in 2012-13 is as follows –

Type of service units	Allocation of DS for each qualified case in 2012-13 (\$)
Subvented RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	about 40,000
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	about 24,000

The calculation of DS is based on the estimated additional nursing support required by an elder who is confirmed as demented by the Psychogeriatric Team of the Hospital Authority, on top of the relevant existing service provision. The amount for each qualified case in DEs/DCUs is 60% of that in RCHEs, because care in DEs/DCUs, unlike that in RCHEs, is not round-the-clock.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)220

Question Serial No.

3239

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in his 2012-13 Budget Speech that the Administration would increase the recurrent funding for Dementia Supplement (DS) by \$137 million. This will allow eligible residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres or units for the elderly to have more resources for engaging professional staff (including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers) or procuring related professional services for the provision of proper care to every demented service user.

Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the case details on the allocation of Infirmiry Care Supplement (ICS) and DS? Please give the reply in the table below –

	ICS				DS			
	Subvented RCHE		Private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)		Subvented RCHE		Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	
	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)
Number of eligible cases as confirmed by Community Geriatric Assessment Teams or Psychogeriatric Teams								
Number of cases with funding approved								
Number of cases with no funding approved								
Amount of funding								

	ICS				DS			
	Subvented RCHE		Private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)		Subvented RCHE		Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	
	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)
approved for each case								
Average amount of funding								
Total amount of funding								

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The allocations of ICS and DS for subvented RCHEs and private RCHEs participating in EBPS in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively are as follows –

	ICS				DS			
	Subvented RCHEs		Private RCHEs participating in EBPS		Subvented RCHEs		Private RCHEs participating in EBPS [Note 1]	
	2011-12	2012-13 [Note 2]	2011-12	2012-13 [Note 2]	2011-12	2012-13 [Note 2]	2011-12	2012-13 [Note 2]
Number of qualified cases as confirmed by Community Geriatric Assessment Teams/ Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs)	1 304	1 400	117	120	3 127	3 240	1 420	1 620
Number of cases with allocation of supplement [Note 3]	1 304	1 400	117	120	3 127	3 240	1 420	1 620
Number of cases without allocation of supplement [Note 3]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Allocation of supplement for each qualified case (\$)	59 000	66 670	59 000	66 670	14 760	40 000	14 760	40 000
Average allocation of supplement for qualified case (\$)	59 000	66 670	59 000	66 670	14 760	40 000	14 760	40 000
Amount of Allocation (\$ million)	76.9	93.3	6.9	8.0	46.2	129.6	21.0	64.8

[Note 1] The number of qualified cases in private RCHEs participating in EBPS is derived from making reference to the number of qualified cases as assessed and confirmed by PGTs in the subvented RCHEs.

[Note 2] Qualified cases and amount of allocation for ICS and DS in 2012-13 are estimated figures.

[Note 3] Allocation of ICS and DS to RCHEs concerned depends on the number of qualified cases in subvented RCHEs and private RCHEs participating in EBPS. All the qualified ICS/DS cases will benefit from supplements allocated to the respective RCHEs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in paragraph 179 of 2012-13 Budget Speech that from 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream. Would the Administration please provide the numbers and implementation details of additional places by the following types? Please give the reply in the table below.

	Continuum of care (COC) places provided in existing self-care (S/C) hostels/ homes for the aged (H/A) under conversion programme	New places acquired through Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)	New COC places in new contract residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs)	Purchase of nursing home (NH) places from self-financing NHs/RCHEs	Increase the proportion of NH places in existing subsidised contract RCHEs	New NH places in new contract RCHEs	
Number of additional places in 2011							A total of over 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places
Number of additional places in 2012							
Number of additional places in 2013							
Number of additional places in 2014							
Number of additional places in 2015							

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The breakdown of about 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places for the elderly which are expected to commence service from 2011-12 to 2014-15 is as follows –

Year of provision	Conversion of S/C Hostels/ H/A	EBPS	New Contract Homes providing COC	NH Places through Purchase Scheme	Increase the proportion of NH places in existing contract homes	New Contract Home providing NH places
2011-12	237	393	14	27	215	123
2012-13	189	512	11	229	174	104
2013-14	Under planning	Under planning	15	Under planning	102	131
2014-15			12		46	108

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)222

Question Serial No.

3241

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What was the number of workers engaged in court social work service (CSWS) in each of the past three years?

What was the number of cases served for CSWS in each of the past three years?

What was the caseload per worker for CSWS in the past three years?

Does the Administration have any plan to increase the manpower and resources of the CSWS in the next three years? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : CSWS aims to render enquiry and counselling services to individuals in conflict with the law and help them and their families alleviate stress and anxiety associated with prosecution. It delivers services mainly at the Magistrates' Courts and would also render services at the District Court and High Court upon request. In 2009, 2010 and 2011, three social workers worked under CSWS and the caseload per year was 265, 248 and 242 respectively. The average caseload per worker per year in the past three years was 84. As the caseload of CSWS indicates a decline in demand of the service in the past three years, we consider the existing manpower of CSWS adequate to handle the current service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)223

Question Serial No.

3242

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration estimates that the number of places provided at hostels for ex-offenders (male) and hostels for ex-offenders (female) will be 120 and 10 respectively in 2012-13. The number of places provided for this service has remained unchanged for the past three years.

What were the respective occupancy rates for hostels for ex-offenders (male) and hostels for ex-offenders (female) in the past three years?

What were the respective numbers of applicants waitlisted for places at hostels for ex-offenders (male) and hostels for ex-offenders (female) in the past three years?

What were the respective waiting time for places at hostels for ex-offenders (male) and hostels for ex-offenders (female) in the past three years?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The demand for hostel places for ex-offenders depends on the number of discharged prisoners. The total numbers of discharged prisoners were 17 915, 17 310 and 15 997 in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively, which showed a downward trend. As confirmed with the non-governmental organisation operator, there was no waiting list for this service in the past three years. With reference to the steady occupancy rates in the last three years as shown in the table below, the present provision of hostel places for both male and female ex-offenders is adequate to meet the service demand.

Year	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11	
Gender	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Occupancy rate of hostel places	97%	97%	99%	99%	97%	93%

Signature _____
 Name in block letters **Patrick T K Nip**
 Post Title **Director of Social Welfare**
 Date **1 March 2012**

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) What is the amount of meal subsidy for each elder in elderly centres in the years from 2002-03 to 2010-11?

(b) It is learnt that the amount of meal subsidy for each elder in elderly centres has not been adjusted over the past five years, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : While canteen service is one of the service components of district elderly community centres, we do not have a breakdown of the related costs on meal provision in these centres, because they are included under Other Charges (OC) of the Lump Sum Grant (LSG). Under the LSG subvention system, OC is adjusted annually in line with the price movement based on the government-wide price adjustment factor, with upward adjustments made annually in the past five years. With effect from 1 April 2012, OC will be adjusted annually in line with the movement in the Composite Consumer Price Index. Operators have the flexibility to deploy the subvention allocations to meet their operational needs on meal provision.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)225

Question Serial No.

3244

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The number of places for long stay care homes (LSCHs) for discharged mental patients in 2010-11 was 1 507, which remained unchanged in 2011-12. The estimated number of places for LSCH in 2012-13 is 1 582, representing an increase of 75 places (5%).

- (a) Would the Administration please provide (i) the current number of people on the waiting lists and (ii) the anticipated demand for the service in the coming three years?
- (b) What is the calculation basis in anticipating the future service demand?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) & (b) As at the end of December 2011, there were 1 174 applicants waitlisted for LSCH. The planned provision is made having regard to demand for the service and availability of suitable premises for setting up the service. The Social Welfare Department will regularly review the service demand and increase the provision as appropriate.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)226

Question Serial No.

3247

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the details of the plan in enhancing medical social services for children with autism.

- (a) What are the details of the provision of medical social services for children with autism in the past five years (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)?
- (b) Please provide the numbers of children with autism receiving medical social services in the past five years (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011). Among them, what are the respective numbers of children aged below 6, between 6 and 12, and at 13 or above?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) Medical social workers (MSWs) of the Social Welfare Department are stationed in hospitals and clinics of the Hospital Authority to provide medical social services to patients and their families/carers with welfare needs, including children with autism and their families/carers. MSWs provide timely psychosocial intervention to the service users and help them cope with or solve problems arising from their illness. A range of support services such as counselling service, referrals for various welfare benefits and community resources to meet the developmental and welfare needs of the children with autism and their families/carers are provided as and when appropriate.

- (b) Medical social services are provided to patients and their families/carers with welfare needs. SWD has not captured statistics on patients receiving medical social services by types of illness or by age groups.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Please provide the number of domestic violence cases handled in the past five years (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011) with breakdown by district.
- (b) Please provide the number of cases in which domestic violence have been successfully prevented in the past five years (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011).
- (c) Please provide details in the implementation of the Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence (VSP) in the past two years. What are the contents of the services and the manpower ratio. What cases will be served under VSP?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

- (a) The breakdown of newly reported domestic violence cases (including spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases) by district from 2007 to 2011 is as follows –

District	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 (January – September)
Central & Western	136	146	131	89	112
Southern	152	125	100	100	99
Islands	131	133	110	66	86
Eastern	475	269	265	186	150
Wan Chai	133	79	80	63	40
Kowloon City	280	262	219	128	106
Yau Tsim Mong	364	307	260	178	146

District	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 (January – September)
Sham Shui Po	386	412	328	203	156
Wong Tai Sin	486	704	398	265	176
Sai Kung	307	251	285	233	109
Kwun Tong	717	745	522	419	254
Sha Tin	380	392	346	275	190
Tai Po	184	262	256	101	92
North	384	425	334	204	159
Yuen Long	954	911	823	516	371
Tsuen Wan	380	284	238	210	132
Kwai Tsing	869	1 005	470	389	298
Tuen Mun	520	462	508	383	303
Outside Hong Kong/Unknown	110	551	127	156	42
Total	7 348	7 725	5 800	4 164	3 021

- (b) The Social Welfare Department does not have information on the number of cases in which spouse/cohabitant battering cases have been successfully prevented.
- (c) VSP commenced operation in June 2010. Under VSP, emotional support and relevant information on judicial proceedings and social support services are provided to victims of spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases, particularly those undergoing judicial proceedings. In addition, publicity work and recruitment of volunteers to assist the service users are conducted. As VSP is subvented under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisation has the flexibility in deploying an appropriate number of staff to provide the service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)228

Question Serial No.

3249

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Please provide the numbers of service users of hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons (HSMHs) by age group (i.e. 15 or below, 16 – 30, 31 or above) in the past five years (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011).
- (b) Please provide the numbers of HSMH service users who are aged 60 or above in the past five years (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011).
- (c) Please provide the numbers of persons waitlisting for HSMH in the past five years (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011), as well as the number of service users of HSMH by age group (i.e. 15 or below, 16 – 30, 31 or above).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : HSMH service provides home living for persons aged 15 and above with severe mental handicap who lack basic self-care skills and require assistance in personal and nursing care. The requested information is as follows –

Age	Number and percentage of service users in HSMH				
	2007 ^[Note1]	2008 ^[Note1]	2009 ^[Note1]	2010 ^[Note1]	2011 ^[Note1]
15 – 30	745 (25%)	666 (23%)	676 (22%)	614 (20%)	614 (19%)
31– 50	1 757 (60%)	1 771 (60%)	1 784 (59%)	1 781 (58%)	1 809 (57%)
over 50 ^[Note2]	427 (15%)	495 (17%)	590 (19%)	658 (22%)	759 (24%)
Total :	2 929 (100%)	2 932 (100%)	3 050 (100%)	3 053 (100%)	3 182 (100%)

^[Note 1] Figures as at the end of December of the year.

^[Note 2] In general, the welfare sector is of the view that enhanced support services should be provided to those HSMH service users aged 50 or above.

Based on the statistical information captured by the Social Welfare Department, about 24% of the service users of HSMH were aged over 50 as at 31 December 2011.

The numbers of persons on waiting list of HSMH from 2007 to 2011 were as follows –

Year	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12 (as at the end of December 2011)
Number of applicants	1 811	1 934	1 965	1 995	2 015

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the annual allocations for the Extended Care Programme (ECP) in the past three years and the coming year? (Please give reply in table form)

What are the respective costs per place per month of day activity centre (DAC) and ECP in the past three years and the coming year? (Please give reply in table form)

	Annual provision per programme	Cost per place per month	
	ECP	DAC	ECP
2009-10			
2010-11			
2011-12			
2012-13			

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The annual allocations for DAC from 2009-10 to 2012-13 are as follows –

2009-10 (Actual) (\$ million)	2010-11 (Actual) (\$ million)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2012-13 (Estimate) (\$ million)
330.1	338.6	373.3	408.2

The monthly unit costs of DAC place from 2009-10 to 2012-13 are as follows –

2009-10 (Actual) (\$)	2010-11 (Actual) (\$)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$)	2012-13 (Estimate) (\$)
6,383	6,483	6,812	6,859

Since ECP is an enhanced service which forms part of the services of DAC, the financial provision and unit cost of ECP have been subsumed under those of DAC.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)230

Question Serial No.

3306

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases benefited from the provision of disregarded earnings (DE) in 2010-11? What was the average amount of DE? What was the total CSSA expenditure reduced after taking into account the recipients' assessable income?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The statistics on CSSA recipients benefiting from DE in 2010-11 were as follows –

Year	Average number of CSSA recipients benefiting from DE per month	Average monthly amount of DE per recipient (\$)	CSSA expenditure reduced after taking into account the recipients' assessable income (\$ million)
2010-11	37 638	1,825	811.2

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)236

Question Serial No.

2704

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide details on the centre locations, the number of staff (with breakdown by professionals, if any), the number of target users served and the expenditure for the integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) in 2010-11, the revised estimate for 2011-12 as well as the estimate for 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply : In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up the ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory for the provision of district-based and one-stop community mental health support services. As at the end of December 2011, they had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised by the ICCMWs. Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management Programme of the Hospital Authority for patients with severe mental illness and provide service for more people in need. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

The distribution of the 24 service points is as follows –

District	Number of service points
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District	Number of service points
Central & Western, Southern/Islands	3
Eastern/Wan Chai	3
Kwun Tong	1
Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung	3
Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong	2
Sham Shui Po	1
Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing	3
Sha Tin	2
Tai Po/North	2
Tuen Mun	2
Yuen Long	2
Total	24

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)237

Question Serial No.

0142

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please provide, by nature of cases and in total, the following –

- (a) the most updated number of CSSA households currently living in public housing estates; and
- (b) the most updated number of CSSA households in each of the District Council districts?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) The respective numbers of CSSA households by nature of case in each of the public housing estates as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Public housing estate	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Ap Lei Chau	258	71	51	106	37	33	23	579
Bo Shek Mansion	58	1	1	6	3	-	-	69
Broadview Garden	13	3	3	4	4	-	-	27
Butterfly	789	66	111	206	27	110	27	1 336
Chai Wan	267	12	23	45	13	25	5	390
Chak On	348	8	41	74	8	37	4	520
Cheung Ching	332	37	50	80	46	69	17	631
Cheung Fat	255	28	36	40	17	32	4	412
Cheung Hang	343	42	51	60	30	64	10	600
Cheung Hong	899	82	84	172	51	113	23	1 424
Cheung Kwai	27	3	8	8	9	11	-	66
Cheung On	307	45	51	44	16	41	9	513
Cheung Shan	103	11	11	17	18	8	2	170

Public housing estate	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Cheung Wah	445	26	77	101	40	61	13	763
Cheung Wang	356	67	103	165	103	141	16	951
Ching Ho	851	58	175	548	144	247	53	2 076
Cho Yiu Chuen	190	7	8	11	14	17	1	248
Choi Fai	89	7	26	19	17	24	2	184
Choi Fook	362	21	36	158	47	86	25	735
Choi Ha	158	14	15	17	9	22	-	235
Choi Hung	904	53	132	231	77	100	15	1 512
Choi Ming Court	272	50	85	100	75	71	9	662
Choi Tak	553	22	48	242	46	82	37	1 030
Choi Wan (I)	411	46	95	138	56	79	20	845
Choi Wan (II)	235	9	43	85	30	36	8	446
Choi Ying	491	23	68	222	42	124	15	985
Choi Yuen	840	54	106	182	28	105	26	1 341
Chuk Yuen (North)	340	36	77	58	25	63	16	615
Chuk Yuen (South)	883	62	127	281	65	107	15	1 540
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	102	5	3	8	3	14	-	135
Chun Shek	274	19	45	53	20	27	6	444
Chung On	259	60	80	94	39	68	28	628
Clague Garden Estate	64	-	1	6	2	4	-	77
Easeful Court	17	4	8	12	12	11	2	66
Fortune	557	29	71	41	33	63	7	801
Fu Cheong	1 360	64	194	188	128	165	12	2 111
Fu Heng	419	49	108	79	22	73	4	754
Fu Shan	180	15	25	41	14	20	2	297
Fu Shin	448	38	93	137	25	60	14	815
Fu Tai	393	95	99	171	113	162	17	1 050
Fu Tung	81	14	20	46	15	15	2	193
Fuk Loi	365	24	47	72	16	27	10	561
Fung Tak	472	30	87	45	19	54	8	715
Fung Wah	89	12	14	9	5	11	4	144
Grandeur Terrace	141	28	103	326	136	184	19	937
Hau Tak	364	41	77	87	42	70	5	686
Healthy Village	106	5	10	12	9	2	2	146
Heng On	223	13	58	61	25	30	19	429
High Prosperity Terrace	9	1	8	22	21	9	1	71
Hin Keng	199	26	46	43	26	25	12	377
Hin Yiu	94	13	28	52	7	16	5	215
Hing Man	135	25	24	56	30	28	6	304
Hing Tin	85	8	21	30	24	14	3	185

Public housing estate	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Hing Tung	193	13	33	47	11	16	2	315
Hing Wah (I)	264	60	46	49	36	39	3	497
Hing Wah (II)	528	54	50	113	22	45	8	820
Ho Man Tin	623	60	113	104	69	68	20	1 057
Hoi Fu Court	594	24	63	94	55	80	8	918
Hoi Lai	292	35	82	210	145	147	15	926
Hong Tung	212	2	3	5	1	3	-	226
Hung Hom	354	12	34	40	21	37	3	501
Jat Min Chuen	357	20	39	29	17	28	5	495
Ka Fuk	252	25	33	43	16	47	5	421
Ka Wai Chuen	245	6	23	17	14	18	-	323
Kai Tin	334	32	53	47	24	40	4	534
Kai Yip	794	38	66	132	19	53	11	1 113
Kam Peng	33	2	3	4	2	7	-	51
Kin Ming	395	96	206	350	152	209	15	1 423
Kin Sang	98	12	32	27	11	19	3	202
King Lam	447	62	81	59	23	65	4	741
Ko Cheung Court	46	9	33	110	47	40	7	292
Ko Yee	199	10	13	28	13	18	2	283
Kwai Chung	1 216	216	305	648	262	425	65	3 137
Kwai Fong	641	102	125	113	87	111	17	1 196
Kwai Hing	97	9	13	15	5	10	3	152
Kwai Luen	125	10	19	59	16	37	16	282
Kwai Shing (East)	739	92	117	146	94	154	18	1 360
Kwai Shing (West)	465	44	69	121	36	89	15	839
Kwong Fuk	537	57	127	189	58	84	30	1 082
Kwong Tin	165	18	40	48	20	32	10	333
Kwong Yuen	340	69	82	65	22	49	29	656
Kwun Lung Lau	106	7	11	12	14	21	2	173
Kwun Tong Garden Estate	514	25	63	50	38	58	4	752
Lai King	439	36	49	85	46	63	12	730
Lai Kok	506	40	62	130	19	63	14	834
Lai On	181	23	24	25	11	18	1	283
Lai Tak Tsuen	134	19	21	12	11	12	-	209
Lai Yiu	278	27	31	47	40	42	9	474
Lakeside Garden	18	2	5	2	2	1	-	30
Lam Tin	403	11	49	125	44	52	11	695
Lee On	298	53	134	107	35	61	13	701
Lei Cheng Uk	349	34	42	84	27	85	7	628
Lei Muk Shue	843	110	188	337	169	197	40	1 884

Public housing estate	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Lei Tung	442	59	80	98	25	53	24	781
Lei Yue Mun	424	32	78	143	63	87	16	843
Lek Yuen	317	44	50	101	20	57	21	610
Leung King	548	64	111	116	29	118	27	1 013
Lok Fu	411	63	93	105	38	71	8	789
Lok Man Sun Chuen	315	23	31	28	17	53	5	472
Lok Wah (North)	159	24	40	55	31	35	6	350
Lok Wah (South)	1 483	53	104	181	24	95	15	1 955
Long Bin IH	32	9	16	10	-	67	6	140
Long Ping	569	63	117	275	83	140	28	1 275
Lower Wong Tai Sin (I)	537	57	94	146	47	88	14	983
Lower Wong Tai Sin (II)	485	62	84	162	52	110	19	974
Lung Hang	236	21	71	109	64	65	46	612
Lung Tin	69	13	8	7	2	12	-	111
Ma Hang	44	4	13	17	8	9	2	97
Ma Tau Wai	223	22	39	97	14	29	4	428
Mei Lam	413	36	84	137	32	57	19	778
Mei Tin	394	59	153	341	112	177	48	1 284
Mei Tung	248	9	30	54	13	26	11	391
Ming Tak	172	18	24	36	19	26	3	298
Ming Wah Dai Ha	167	13	19	10	9	20	-	238
Model Housing	49	9	9	14	14	8	3	106
Moon Lok Dai Ha	96	4	11	9	5	9	1	135
Nam Cheong	172	17	33	30	11	32	2	297
Nam Shan	348	21	61	114	18	46	16	624
Nga Ning Court	16	1	4	17	8	13	3	62
Ngan Wan	32	4	7	13	4	7	-	67
Oi Man	370	52	108	175	53	91	10	859
Oi Tung	781	82	90	142	55	45	9	1 204
On Tin	23	3	9	46	34	27	5	147
On Ting	646	78	109	140	29	94	20	1 116
On Yam	498	61	69	65	67	80	21	861
Pak Tin	1 417	59	223	266	126	191	37	2 319
Ping Shek	411	35	51	71	27	53	4	652
Ping Tin	875	65	134	161	71	112	21	1 439
Po Lam	310	45	58	120	41	49	6	629
Po Tat	1 045	68	179	275	188	219	28	2 002
Po Tin	1 092	140	367	123	15	469	26	2 232
Pok Hong	296	14	72	86	29	40	12	549
Prosperous Garden	100	1	3	2	2	2	1	111

Public housing estate	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Sai Wan	27	1	12	5	6	5	2	58
Sam Shing	142	20	20	57	12	25	9	285
Sau Mau Ping (South)	426	19	76	189	61	102	22	895
Sau Mau Ping	1 913	132	279	356	234	280	54	3 248
Sha Kok	819	81	141	186	35	93	71	1 426
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	41	5	10	5	8	9	3	81
Shan King	822	86	150	245	52	154	39	1 548
Shatin Pass	97	5	17	41	7	18	2	187
Shek Kip Mei	933	44	151	167	71	104	24	1 494
Shek Lei (I)	670	98	83	147	59	80	22	1 159
Shek Lei (II)	955	112	162	267	169	256	53	1 974
Shek Mun	109	10	48	112	16	60	22	377
Shek Pai Wan	477	67	80	71	76	49	19	839
Shek Wai Kok	600	45	98	168	48	67	23	1 049
Shek Yam (East)	355	41	38	36	22	50	6	548
Shek Yam	391	52	51	70	56	58	5	683
Sheung Lok	132	9	2	10	-	8	1	162
Sheung Tak	546	62	124	162	128	135	18	1 175
Shin Ming	137	22	33	85	17	36	12	342
Shui Pin Wai	490	23	50	86	15	44	9	717
Shun Lee	458	30	47	104	35	77	8	759
Shun On	458	28	46	74	33	62	10	711
Shun Tin	847	60	121	159	68	120	20	1 395
Siu Sai Wan	313	84	84	126	61	68	13	749
So Uk	93	7	18	14	14	25	1	172
Sun Chui	612	58	104	165	61	101	22	1 123
Sun Tin Wai	256	30	47	92	34	34	14	507
Tai Hang Tung	434	20	62	44	21	37	7	625
Tai Hing	1 209	80	163	245	56	168	31	1 952
Tai Ping	34	6	14	19	4	15	1	93
Tai Wo	586	32	103	79	22	52	19	893
Tai Wo Hau	788	99	130	169	68	131	26	1 411
Tai Yuen	359	44	139	113	62	76	16	809
Tak Tin	732	32	106	74	29	64	14	1 051
Tin Chak	445	54	132	207	73	165	20	1 096
Tin Ching	630	60	160	432	98	236	67	1 683
Tin Heng	225	43	152	383	216	261	20	1 300
Tin King	93	15	27	63	15	31	11	255
Tin Ping	218	31	52	79	22	45	8	455
Tin Shui	562	65	131	245	90	139	30	1 262

Public housing estate	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Tin Tsz	510	52	93	105	31	79	16	886
Tin Wah	503	54	113	132	59	108	16	985
Tin Wan	417	58	80	53	30	35	17	690
Tin Yan	701	94	200	353	52	269	18	1 687
Tin Yat	131	34	62	222	127	130	13	719
Tin Yiu	612	61	190	283	87	192	38	1 463
Tin Yuet	472	47	128	200	126	182	14	1 169
Tsing Yi	177	20	25	32	9	27	3	293
Tsui Lam	155	22	48	101	31	31	4	392
Tsui Lok	116	5	6	11	1	2	1	142
Tsui Ping (South)	486	28	53	69	43	52	12	743
Tsui Ping (North)	1 050	68	190	197	61	141	18	1 725
Tsui Wan	128	30	15	28	5	16	3	225
Tsz Ching	1 337	70	189	215	172	166	24	2 173
Tsz Hong	123	12	38	114	90	60	7	444
Tsz Lok	855	61	126	163	69	107	14	1 395
Tsz Man	212	15	43	47	33	43	7	400
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	11	-	6	2	3	-	2	24
Tung Tau	963	67	105	127	39	121	14	1 436
Un Chau	1 159	68	131	95	58	124	16	1 651
Upper Ngau Tau Kok	1 381	76	160	100	58	152	14	1 941
Upper Wong Tai Sin	810	79	102	126	76	103	20	1 316
Verbena Heights	159	8	17	6	3	22	2	217
Wah Fu	607	103	123	209	95	64	24	1 225
Wah Kwai	295	31	36	28	21	22	2	435
Wah Lai	100	19	35	45	35	33	8	275
Wah Ming	397	44	87	99	31	76	12	746
Wah Sum	168	28	51	47	19	31	1	345
Wan Hon	470	6	10	16	7	9	5	523
Wan Tau Tong	201	34	27	33	7	17	1	320
Wan Tsui	327	50	58	99	38	52	11	635
Wang Tau Hom	413	68	72	127	53	91	24	848
Wo Che	386	79	164	159	67	90	32	977
Wo Lok	248	27	40	58	17	31	4	425
Wu King	190	26	67	117	40	86	14	540
Yan On	120	15	48	116	16	60	15	390
Yat Tung	546	106	252	578	377	392	41	2 292
Yau Lai	839	28	131	400	127	141	40	1 706
Yau Oi	744	90	145	250	90	212	41	1 572
Yau Tong	527	47	104	131	88	92	9	998

Public housing estate	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Yiu On	180	30	74	62	12	32	13	403
Yiu Tung	536	60	98	87	47	54	10	892
Yue Kwong Chuen	53	8	10	7	2	7	2	89
Yue Wan	210	35	31	82	27	32	8	425
Yung Shing Court	231	23	52	48	47	65	5	471
Total	88 424	8 463	15 828	24 066	9 836	16 076	2 950	165 643

(b) The respective numbers of CSSA households by nature of case and district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central & Western	2 294	234	277	191	92	300	61	3 449
Eastern	8 591	1 170	1 042	1 391	561	871	287	13 913
Islands	1 747	228	396	819	464	618	197	4 469
Kowloon City	7 670	841	1 021	1 213	421	1 143	244	12 553
Kwai Tsing	14 906	2 281	2 194	2 982	1 497	2 417	551	26 828
Kwun Tong	22 061	1 624	2 926	4 614	1 854	2 924	743	36 746
North	7 799	942	1 338	2 055	533	1 266	465	14 398
Sai Kung	4 284	871	950	1 237	592	795	368	9 097
Sha Tin	8 977	1 459	1 964	2 439	769	1 331	620	17 559
Sham Shui Po	13 759	1 078	2 493	2 419	969	3 358	605	24 681
Southern	5 075	1 182	725	665	327	340	210	8 524
Tai Po	5 943	509	975	1 083	295	623	253	9 681
Tsuen Wan	5 054	416	594	963	351	581	217	8 176
Tuen Mun	11 284	2 220	2 301	2 345	596	2 068	540	21 354
Wan Chai	1 273	79	131	98	38	251	94	1 964
Wong Tai Sin	13 010	1 146	1 859	2 603	1 083	1 733	415	21 849
Yau Tsim Mong	5 210	334	1 056	973	279	2 421	384	10 657

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Yuen Long	12 607	1 770	2 831	4 613	1 436	3 478	760	27 495
Total ^[Note 2]	151 544	18 384	25 073	32 703	12 157	26 518	7 014	273 393

[Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the two allowances for the severely disabled and elders under the Social Security Allowance (SSA), would the Administration please provide

-
- (a) by public housing estate and in total, the most updated number of recipients of these two allowances; and
 - (b) by District Council district and in total, the most updated number of recipients of these two allowances?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) The numbers of Disability Allowance (DA) and Old Age Allowance (OAA) recipients by public housing estate as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Public housing estate	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Ap Lei Chau	504	1 572	2 076
Bo Shek Mansion	7	20	27
Broadview Garden	5	20	25
Butterfly	216	675	891
Chai Wan	78	178	256
Chak On	102	401	503
Cheung Ching	387	1 939	2 326
Cheung Fat	156	398	554
Cheung Hang	279	1 053	1 332
Cheung Hong	497	2 387	2 884
Cheung Kwai	25	96	121
Cheung On	527	1 603	2 130
Cheung Shan	138	734	872

Public housing estate	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Cheung Wah	383	1 181	1 564
Cheung Wang	173	280	453
Ching Ho	245	261	506
Cho Yiu Chuen	187	1 059	1 246
Choi Fai	95	370	465
Choi Fook	59	107	166
Choi Ha	206	866	1 072
Choi Hung	491	3 045	3 536
Choi Ming Court	119	275	394
Choi Tak	107	243	350
Choi Wan (I)	519	1 975	2 494
Choi Wan (II)	250	1 037	1 287
Choi Ying	123	319	442
Choi Yuen	333	1 095	1 428
Chuk Yuen (North)	572	2 914	3 486
Chuk Yuen (South)	396	1 607	2 003
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	88	420	508
Chun Shek	158	538	696
Chung On	191	261	452
Clague Garden Estate	47	292	339
Easeful Court	35	67	102
Fortune	139	362	501
Fu Cheong	302	781	1 083
Fu Heng	432	778	1 210
Fu Shan	87	562	649
Fu Shin	478	1 153	1 631
Fu Tai	334	591	925
Fu Tung	92	227	319
Fuk Loi	256	1 528	1 784
Fung Tak	367	1 971	2 338
Fung Wah	124	396	520
Grandeur Terrace	181	188	369
Hau Tak	325	788	1 113
Healthy Village	183	840	1 023
Heng On	501	1 333	1 834
High Prosperity Terrace	40	99	139
Hin Keng	536	1 774	2 310
Hin Yiu	37	50	87
Hing Man	176	700	876
Hing Tin	254	1 013	1 267

Public housing estate	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Hing Tung	182	394	576
Hing Wah (I)	226	476	702
Hing Wah (II)	329	1 075	1 404
Ho Man Tin	455	1 997	2 452
Hoi Fu Court	185	629	814
Hoi Lai	275	551	826
Hong Tung	27	129	156
Hung Hom	81	211	292
Jat Min Chuen	295	913	1 208
Ka Fuk	133	257	390
Ka Wai Chuen	146	892	1 038
Kai Tin	187	785	972
Kai Yip	294	1 178	1 472
Kam Peng	19	38	57
Kin Ming	261	359	620
Kin Sang	183	324	507
King Lam	410	1 003	1 413
Ko Cheung Court	132	201	333
Ko Yee	108	365	473
Kwai Chung	565	1 342	1 907
Kwai Fong	561	2 467	3 028
Kwai Hing	149	875	1 024
Kwai Luen	18	35	53
Kwai Shing (East)	400	1 772	2 172
Kwai Shing (West)	344	1 882	2 226
Kwong Fuk	557	1 266	1 823
Kwong Tin	269	901	1 170
Kwong Yuen	364	849	1 213
Kwun Lung Lau	149	664	813
Kwun Tong Garden Estate	357	1 805	2 162
Lai King	306	1 568	1 874
Lai Kok	225	867	1 092
Lai On	147	652	799
Lai Tak Tsuen	259	1 285	1 544
Lai Yiu	201	941	1 142
Lakeside Garden	8	18	26
Lam Tin	98	374	472
Lee On	297	612	909
Lei Cheng Uk	421	1 808	2 229
Lei Muk Shue	624	2 717	3 341

Public housing estate	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Lei Tung	702	1 918	2 620
Lei Yue Mun	173	529	702
Lek Yuen	278	1 072	1 350
Leung King	434	761	1 195
Lok Fu	319	1 276	1 595
Lok Man Sun Chuen	265	1 867	2 132
Lok Wah (North)	249	1 093	1 342
Lok Wah (South)	375	1 659	2 034
Long Bin IH	12	14	26
Long Ping	512	1 172	1 684
Lower Wong Tai Sin (I)	545	2 271	2 816
Lower Wong Tai Sin (II)	422	1 875	2 297
Lung Hang	396	1 179	1 575
Lung Tin	15	64	79
Ma Hang	86	212	298
Ma Tau Wai	208	774	982
Mei Lam	369	1 310	1 679
Mei Tin	196	218	414
Mei Tung	65	299	364
Ming Tak	57	215	272
Ming Wah Dai Ha	279	1 305	1 584
Model Housing	71	253	324
Moon Lok Dai Ha	55	404	459
Nam Cheong	142	578	720
Nam Shan	246	777	1 023
Nga Ning Court	24	25	49
Ngan Wan	19	51	70
Oi Man	596	2 785	3 381
Oi Tung	373	864	1 237
On Tin	48	102	150
On Ting	292	770	1 062
On Yam	455	2 800	3 255
Pak Tin	565	2 064	2 629
Ping Shek	379	2 129	2 508
Ping Tin	498	1 599	2 097
Po Lam	379	990	1 369
Po Tat	395	1 143	1 538
Po Tin	175	262	437
Pok Hong	560	1 745	2 305
Prosperous Garden	26	97	123

Public housing estate	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Sai Wan	78	246	324
Sam Shing	104	356	460
Sau Mau Ping (South)	109	231	340
Sau Mau Ping	940	3 593	4 533
Sha Kok	516	1 812	2 328
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	55	180	235
Shan King	508	1 169	1 677
Shatin Pass	18	141	159
Shek Kip Mei	372	1 250	1 622
Shek Lei (I)	428	2 110	2 538
Shek Lei (II)	300	992	1 292
Shek Mun	48	46	94
Shek Pai Wan	574	1 196	1 770
Shek Wai Kok	475	2 398	2 873
Shek Yam (East)	164	908	1 072
Shek Yam	172	705	877
Sheung Lok	10	102	112
Sheung Tak	323	773	1 096
Shin Ming	19	38	57
Shui Pin Wai	103	515	618
Shun Lee	359	1 533	1 892
Shun On	208	890	1 098
Shun Tin	558	2 251	2 809
Siu Sai Wan	744	1 907	2 651
So Uk	120	694	814
Sun Chui	588	1 832	2 420
Sun Tin Wai	298	1 215	1 513
Tai Hang Tung	163	647	810
Tai Hing	438	1 521	1 959
Tai Ping	133	208	341
Tai Wo	542	1 117	1 659
Tai Wo Hau	660	2 918	3 578
Tai Yuen	469	1 264	1 733
Tak Tin	471	1 909	2 380
Tin Chak	146	234	380
Tin Ching	141	191	332
Tin Heng	282	382	664
Tin King	204	328	532
Tin Ping	400	689	1 089
Tin Shui	471	948	1 419

Public housing estate	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Tin Tsz	179	333	512
Tin Wah	195	344	539
Tin Wan	331	800	1 131
Tin Yan	129	203	332
Tin Yat	156	208	364
Tin Yiu	565	991	1 556
Tin Yuet	170	302	472
Tsing Yi	257	898	1 155
Tsui Lam	358	912	1 270
Tsui Lok	31	92	123
Tsui Ping (South)	187	659	846
Tsui Ping (North)	725	2 701	3 426
Tsui Wan	240	716	956
Tsz Ching	424	1 779	2 203
Tsz Hong	102	269	371
Tsz Lok	358	1 443	1 801
Tsz Man	182	794	976
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	15	31	46
Tung Tau	553	2 499	3 052
Un Chau	492	2 467	2 959
Upper Ngau Tau Kok	473	2 193	2 666
Upper Wong Tai Sin	339	1 322	1 661
Verbena Heights	35	139	174
Wah Fu	947	3 581	4 528
Wah Kwai	385	1 144	1 529
Wah Lai	84	113	197
Wah Ming	356	590	946
Wah Sum	71	179	250
Wan Hon	44	260	304
Wan Tau Tong	203	477	680
Wan Tsui	364	1 033	1 397
Wang Tau Hom	505	2 294	2 799
Wo Che	663	2 082	2 745
Wo Lok	116	651	767
Wu King	332	933	1 265
Yan On	29	46	75
Yat Tung	525	844	1 369
Yau Lai	279	757	1 036
Yau Oi	576	1 661	2 237
Yau Tong	244	752	996

Public housing estate	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Yiu On	389	757	1 146
Yiu Tung	405	1 118	1 523
Yue Kwong Chuen	87	451	538
Yue Wan	232	739	971
Yung Shing Court	102	172	274
Total	60 189	205 588	265 777

(b) The numbers of DA and OAA recipients by geographical district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note]	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Central & Western	4 182	17 885	22 067
Eastern	13 152	52 062	65 214
Islands	1 911	6 437	8 348
Kowloon City	6 965	31 821	38 786
Kwai Tsing	11 406	42 219	53 625
Kwun Tong	14 133	53 275	67 408
North	5 683	16 642	22 325
Sai Kung	6 711	20 320	27 031
Sha Tin	13 432	40 273	53 705
Sham Shui Po	7 486	30 277	37 763
Southern	7 181	20 780	27 961
Tai Po	6 306	16 534	22 840
Tsuen Wan	5 227	21 069	26 296
Tuen Mun	9 582	24 371	33 953
Wan Chai	2 476	13 017	15 493
Wong Tai Sin	9 959	41 095	51 054
Yau Tsim Mong	4 509	22 438	26 947

Geographical district ^[Note]	Number of recipients		
	DA	OAA	Total
Yuen Long	8 754	25 127	33 881
Total	139 055	495 642	634 697

^[Note] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils. The information on geographical districts was mainly collected at the time of application.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)239

Question Serial No.

0144

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 59 of the Budget Speech “..We extended and improved short-term food assistance services through the additional funding of \$100 million made at the end of last year. Enhancements include providing a wider variety of foods along with fresh foods. The Government will allocate another \$100 million to the services when necessary;...”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the latest position and trend of the expenditure involved in the existing short-term food assistance services?
- (b) What are the number of persons served and average value of food assistance received per person in each of the past two years?
- (c) Whether review and evaluation on the short-term food assistance service were conducted last year taking the recent soaring inflation rate into consideration? If yes, what are the results?
- (d) Apart from providing a greater variety of food along with fresh foods, would the Administration consider other enhancement measures, such as extending the period of assistance to applicants, expanding the service network and increasing the number of service operators? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) Since the implementation of the short-term food assistance service projects (the Projects) in February 2009, the expenditure up to the end of December 2011 was \$66.3 million. The service demand has shown a general increasing trend in the recent months.

- (b) The number of persons served under the Projects in 2010-11 was around 19 600 and that up to the end of December 2011 in the year 2011-12 was around 24 200. The provision of food assistance to each service user is made according to his/her need as assessed by the operating non-governmental organisations (NGOs). There is no fixed amount of food value for each service user.
- (c) The Social Welfare Department has been monitoring the service demand and the operation of the Projects. To better meet the needs of the service users, the Administration has enhanced the provision of the Projects by including more food varieties, like fresh foods and supermarket/hot meal coupons, since 31 October 2011.
- (d) The operating NGOs may extend the period of assistance for individual service users based on their actual needs, and refer those with longer-term welfare needs to other service units as appropriate. To enhance the accessibility of the service, the operating NGOs had set up 412 service points as at the end of December 2011 all over the territory and they will continue to engage suitable partner organisations in establishing more service points for delivery of the service. As the existing operation has been running smoothly, there is no plan to increase the number of service operators.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will monitor the implementation of the regularised Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the numbers of home-based child carers, service users and the utilisation rate of NSCCP by district?
- (b) What are the remuneration and benefits (including the maximum, minimum and average hourly wages, etc.) of home-based child carers participating in NSCCP in the previous year? Would the Administration, along with the implementation of minimum wage, consider making upward adjustment to the remuneration of home-based child carers at least to the minimum wage level? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) What are the details of the publicity and promotional work relating to NSCCP?
- (d) What are the recurrent manpower and expenditure involved in the regularised NSCCP?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) Upon the regularisation and extension of NSCCP to 18 districts in October 2011, each service operator is required to provide at least 26 home-based child care places. Thus, there will be a total of at least 468 home-based child care places over the territory. The service providers have the flexibility to increase the number of home-based child care places on top of the requirement set by SWD to meet actual service demand. SWD does not capture the number of home-based child carers which may fluctuate according to service demand. The number of children served in each district from October 2011 to December 2011 are provided in the table below –

District	Number of Children Served ^[Note]
Central & Western	7
Eastern	31
Islands	115
Kowloon City	106
Kwai Tsing	159
Kwun Tong	140
North	92
Sai Kung	160
Sha Tin	115
Sham Shui Po	179
Southern	37
Tai Po	54
Tsuen Wan	8
Tuen Mun	243
Wan Chai	21
Wong Tai Sin	99
Yau Tsim Mong	64
Yuen Long	264
Total	1 894

[Note] SWD captures service utilisation by counts of children using the service in the month. One child is counted once in the month.

- (b) NSCCP is a mutual help project and not an employment project. It aims to promote community participation and mutual help in the neighbourhood, and at the same time provide flexible child care support to needy families. The home-based child carers of NSCCP are providing service as volunteers in the spirit of care for others and receive an incentive payment in return. Given that there is no employment relationship between the carers and the service providers, the statutory minimum wage does not apply to NSCCP.
- (c) SWD, together with the service providers, has widely publicised NSCCP through various mass media, distribution of service pamphlets and souvenirs, as well as welfare organisations, community groups, government departments and units in the districts.

- (d) The estimated recurrent provision for NSCCP in 2012-13 is \$36.3 million. The service providers have the flexibility of deploying appropriate manpower to run the project, and there must be at least one social worker for each project.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 59 of the Budget Speech that the Administration will provide an extra allowance to Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients, equal to one month of the standard rate CSSA payments; and an extra allowance to Old Age Allowance (OAA) and Disability Allowance (DA) recipients, equal to one month of the allowances. This proposal will involve an expenditure of \$2.1 billion. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the detailed breakdown of the expenditure on the above relief measures provided for various recipients;
- (b) the anticipated earliest time for the payment of extra allowances to the recipients; and
- (c) in addition to the above one-off relief measures, whether the Administration will consider reviewing the CSSA basic rate as soon as possible to enable the recipients to genuinely maintain a basic standard of living? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) and (b) The Financial Secretary announced in his 2012-13 Budget Speech the provision of an extra payment to CSSA recipients, equal to one month of the CSSA standard rate; and an extra allowance to OAA and DA recipients, equal to one month of the allowances. Subject to the Finance Committee's approval, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) aims to implement the proposal around mid-2012. The estimated total expenditure is \$2.079 billion (which was rounded to \$2.1 billion in the Budget Speech). It consists of \$1,257 million for CSSA, \$587 million for OAA and \$235 million for DA.

- (c) The CSSA Scheme is a safety net of last resort provided by the Government for those who cannot support themselves financially, and is designed to help them meet their basic needs. In accordance with the established mechanism, the Government adjusts CSSA standard payment rates (including the CSSA standard rates, supplements and monthly meal allowance under the special grants category) on an annual basis taking into account the movements of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices (SSAIP). Furthermore, SWD updates the weighting system of the SSAIP every five years with reference to the Household Expenditure Survey on CSSA Households so that the index can more accurately reflect the latest expenditure pattern of CSSA households. The weighting system truthfully presents CSSA recipients' expenditures on individual categories of goods and services as a proportion of their total expenditures. Applying these weights in the calculation of SSAIP can reflect more accurately the impact of price changes on CSSA recipients. In the latest updating exercise, 2009-10 has been adopted as the new base year to capture the latest expenditure pattern of CSSA recipients.

SWD raised the standard payment rates under the CSSA Scheme by 5.2% with effect from 1 February 2012 in accordance with the above well-established mechanism. We will continue to monitor the movements of the SSAIP to ensure that the purchasing power of CSSA payments is maintained.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following -

- (a) What are the progress of “Guangdong (GD) Scheme” in the preparation stage and the latest estimated expenditure involved;
- (b) As stated in the indicators, the number of cases served under the SSA Scheme has been on the rise over the past two years. The number of cases will even rise to 752 400 in 2012-13. What are the reasons for the increase? As far as the Old Age Allowance (OAA) is concerned, what are the numbers of elderly persons who received the allowance over the past two years, the estimated numbers of elderly persons who will receive the allowance in each of the coming three years, those numbers as a percentage of the total numbers of eligible persons and the relevant expenditures involved; and
- (c) What was the situation relating to fraud and abuse of Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) which has income and asset limits over the past three years; what were the follow-up actions taken by the Administration; and whether the Administration will consider removing the income and asset requirements as in the case of Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA); if no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) The Administration is drawing up the details of the GD Scheme (including the resource requirements) and aims at developing more concrete plans in the first half of 2012.

- (b) The SSA caseload, among which there is a relatively larger increase in the number of HOAA recipients, is generally increasing in tandem with population growth.

The average number of OAA recipients per month and OAA expenditure in 2010-11 was as follows –

	Average number of OAA recipients per month	OAA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 1]
2010-11	494 734	6,449

The estimated average numbers of OAA recipients per month and OAA expenditures from 2011-12 to 2014-15 are as follows –

	Estimated average number of OAA recipients per month	OAA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 2]
2011-12	508 900	6,939
2012-13	539 000	7,605
2013-14	588 200	7,694
2014-15	642 900	8,409

Since we do not have information on the asset and income levels of all Hong Kong residents aged 65 or above, and any information on their duration of stay in Hong Kong each year, we are unable to estimate how many of them are eligible for OAA or provide the estimated number of OAA recipients as a percentage of the eligible population.

[Note 1] The expenditure includes the payment of one additional month of the allowance.

[Note 2] The 2011-12 and 2012-13 expenditures include the payment of one additional month of the allowance in each year.

- (c) The numbers of fraud cases on NOAA involving asset and / or income in excess of the prescribed limits in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 (as at 31 December 2011) were as follows –

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at 31 December 2011)
Established fraud cases	38	34	17
Amount of overpayment involved (\$ million)	0.66	0.60	0.39

To ensure the proper use of public resources, the Social Welfare Department will try to recover the overpayment so arisen as far as practicable. Cases with fraud elements will be referred to the Police for consideration of prosecution.

OAA is part of the SSA Scheme which is a non-contributory scheme. To ensure the prudent use of public funds and long-term sustainability of the Scheme, NOAA applicants aged 65 to 69 are subject to a means test. The Administration has no plan to remove the income and asset requirements for NOAA, but will continue to make annual adjustments to the limits according to the established mechanism.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) “provides material assistance in the form of food and other essential articles for victims of natural and other disasters” and “provides financial assistance from the Emergency Relief Fund for victims of natural disasters or their dependants as appropriate”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the number of incidents that required the above assistance in the previous year, the number of persons who had received assistance in the above incidents and the expenditure involved; and
- (b) the provision reserved for the above purpose in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) SWD provides emergency relief to victims of natural or other disasters in the form of cooked meals (or cash grant in lieu of cooked meals) and other essential relief articles. SWD also distributes blankets to needy persons during cold spells. In 2011-12 (up to 31 January 2012), there were 11 natural disasters involving 618 victims who received emergency relief service. The total amount of expenditure (including blankets distributed during cold spells) was \$356,000.

The Director of Social Welfare is the trustee of Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) which provides prompt assistance to persons in need of urgent relief as a result of natural disasters. SWD, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Marine Department and Lands Department are the operating departments. In 2011-12 (as at 31 January 2012), ERF was granted to 1 520 victims of 12 incidents, and the total amount of expenditure was \$4.36 million.

- (b) In 2012-13, the provision for emergency relief service and ERF are \$1 million and \$10 million respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 57 of the Budget Speech “...we shall increase the recurrent funding for Dementia Supplement by \$137 million. This will allow eligible residential care homes and day care centres or units for the elderly to have more resources for engaging professional staff (including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers) or procuring related professional services for the provision of proper care to every demented service user.” Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the details of the plan mentioned above (including the estimated number of additional professional staff to be employed and the breakdown of expenditure, etc.); and
- (b) whether the Administration will further provide more comprehensive and professional support to carers of demented elders living at home?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : To enhance the support for demented elders in subsidised residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres or units (DEs/DCUs), an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS). The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

The breakdown of the additional allocation of DS is as follows –

Type of service units	Additional allocation (\$ million)
Subvented RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)	127.5
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	9.7

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in EBPS and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

With the allocation of DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services taking into account the needs of the service units. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary. There is no breakdown on the number of staff employed as RCHEs, DEs/DCUs have the flexibility in determining how best to deploy the DS to provide better support to demented elders.

At present, support services to carers of demented elders (including counselling, carer support group) are provided by elderly centres, DEs/DCUs and home care service teams. Carer training (including the skills for taking care of demented elders) is provided by elderly centres under the "District-based Scheme on Carer Training". As at the end of December 2011, over 8 000 carers had been trained. With effect from 1 March 2012, the Government will make use of the casual vacancies of bought places in EBPS homes to provide more respite places for elders residing in the community, on top of those currently provided in all subvented homes and contract homes. The increase in respite places will also help to relieve the pressure of carers who look after demented elders.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the review of various employment assistance programmes under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following -

- (a) the latest progress of the above review;
- (b) the Administration's preliminary direction of integrating the various programmes;
- (c) the estimated expenditure of integrating various employment assistance programmes;
- (d) the estimated time for completion and announcement of the review;
and
- (e) the time for finally implementing the integrating of the programmes.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) & (b) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) proposes to integrate various employment assistance programmes under the CSSA Scheme with a view to enhancing effectiveness and achieving synergy. SWD is seeking the views of stakeholders including the operating agencies and plans to invite non-governmental organisations to submit proposals for operating the integrated programme in 2012.

- (c) The estimated expenditure for the integration of the employment assistance programmes is about \$230 million for a period of around 27 months.

- (d) The review will be completed, and the outcome announced, in 2012.
- (e) The integrated employment assistance programme will commence operation in early 2013.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will plan for a pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the latest progress of planning the above-mentioned scheme;
- (b) the preliminary mode of operation and scope;
- (c) the estimated expenditure required for the pilot scheme; and
- (d) the anticipated earliest time for launching the scheme?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The Government consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the preliminary proposal of the pilot scheme on community care service (CCS) voucher for the elderly (the scheme) on 13 February 2012. The scheme will adopt a new funding mode, whereby the Government provides subsidy directly to the service users instead of the service providers. To fully test the funding mode, the scheme will last for four years and be implemented in two phases. Elders who have been assessed to have impairment at moderate level or above may participate in the scheme. They may choose the service provider, the type of service and the service package which best suit their needs. For the first phase of the scheme, we will target elders who have impairment at moderate level. A co-payment and means-test mechanism will be introduced and a single voucher value at \$5,000 per month is proposed, with Government subsidy ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,500. The scheme will be launched in selected districts. Selection will be based on the district profile as well as the readiness of service providers to provide the services. For the first phase, we will invite non-governmental organisations and non-profit organisations (including social enterprises) to participate as they are more experienced in the provision of CCS to elders.

The estimated expenditure required for the scheme will be determined at a later stage. We will seek one-off funding support from the Lotteries Fund for the scheme and continue with the preparatory work, such as drawing up the implementation details, consulting stakeholders and developing information technology infrastructure, with a view to launching the first phase of the scheme in 2013-14.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)247

Question Serial No.

0162

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the numbers of different categories of CSSA recipients over the past three years and the amount of CSSA payments involved, the estimated number of CSSA recipients in the coming two years, their percentage against the total number of eligible persons and the relevant expenditure involved; and
- (b) the situation of fraud and abuse over the past two years, the resources and manpower allocated by the Administration in this respect, and the ways to publicise against the abuse of CSSA without conveying a wrong message and deterring those who are genuinely in need from applying for CSSA?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) The average numbers of CSSA cases and the expenditure by case nature in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Case nature	2009-10 (Actual)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 1]
Old age	148 032	9,542
Permanent disability	17 494	1,177
Ill health	23 493	1,785
Single parent	34 251	3,111
Low-earnings	14 022	1,163

Case nature	2009-10 (Actual)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 1]
Unemployment	28 286	1,841
Others	6 269	408
Total	271 847	19,028

Case nature	2010-11 (Actual)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 1]
Old age	148 928	9,477
Permanent disability	17 788	1,168
Ill health	23 772	1,754
Single parent	33 354	2,942
Low-earnings	13 425	1,069
Unemployment	26 591	1,660
Others	6 585	423
Total	270 443	18,493

Case nature	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$million) ^[Note 1]
Old age	149 400	10,115
Permanent disability	18 100	1,312
Ill health	23 800	1,959
Single parent	32 100	3,059
Low-earnings	12 000	1,039
Unemployment	24 400	1,631
Others	6 600	463
Overall	266 400	19,578

The estimated average numbers of CSSA cases and the expenditure by cases nature in 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively are as follows. Since we do not have information on the asset and income levels of all Hong Kong residents and their duration of stay in Hong Kong, we are unable to estimate how many of them are eligible for CSSA or provide the

estimated number of CSSA recipients as a percentage against the total number of eligible persons.

Case nature	2012-13 (Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 2]
Old age	150 800	10,799
Permanent disability	18 500	1,396
Ill health	24 300	2,101
Single parent	31 900	3,099
Low-earnings	11 800	1,040
Unemployment	24 200	1,650
Others	7 000	497
Total	268 500	20,582

Case nature	2013-14 (Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million)
Old age	152 000	10,494
Permanent disability	18 900	1,377
Ill health	24 900	2,076
Single parent	31 900	3,035
Low-earnings	11 900	1,036
Unemployment	24 200	1,620
Others	7 400	517
Total	271 200	20,155

[Note 1] Expenditure included one additional month of standard rate payment in each of the years of 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12. Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding effect.

[Note 2] Expenditure included one additional month of standard rate payment in each of the years. The additional payment for 2012-13 is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee. Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding effect.

(b) The numbers of fraud CSSA cases in 2010-11 and 2011-12 (as at 31 December 2011) respectively were as follows –

	2010-11	2011-12 (as at 31 December 2011)
Established fraud CSSA cases	1 014	634
Amount of overpayment involved (\$ million)	48	40

The expenditure of the Special Investigation Section in 2010-11 was \$44.2 million and the estimated expenditure for 2011-12 is \$48.2 million.

Currently, there are 120 social security staff posts in the Special Investigation Section specialised in the prevention and detection of fraud and abuse of social security benefits. In view of the complexity of fraud investigation, eight retired officers from the discipline forces have also been appointed as fraud investigation advisors to enhance the investigation techniques of the investigation officers of the Fraud Investigation Teams of the Special Investigation Section.

To combat fraud, the Social Welfare Department conducts regular case reviews and checkings on targeted cases, arranges periodical data matching with other government departments and organisations, and conducts in-depth investigation into suspected fraud cases. There are also a hotline and a mailing chit for the public to report fraud.

Besides, anti-fraud panels are being installed in all social security field units to remind those concerned to report their circumstances honestly and be aware of the seriousness of committing any offence. Latest figures on social security frauds are announced regularly on the panels and there are also press cuttings about fraud cases resulting in conviction.

It is our goal to support persons suffering from financial hardship for various reasons such as old age, disability, illness, single parent, unemployment and low-earnings through the CSSA Scheme, which provides a safety net for those who cannot support themselves financially. This message has been clearly disseminated through our publicity materials.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will continue to monitor the operation of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) throughout the territory to provide one-stop district-based community support services for ex-mentally ill persons, persons with suspected mental health problems, their families/carers and residents of the local community. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the latest progress of setting up the above-mentioned ICCMWs throughout the territory;
- (b) as it is learned that some difficulties were encountered in identifying premises for setting up such community centres in the past, what follow-up action will be taken by the Administration to address this issue;
- (c) the estimated schedule for all ICCMWs to have permanent accommodation to provide services eventually;
- (d) the latest utilisation of the existing ICCMWs; and
- (e) the respective number of ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems that are receiving support service?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) set up the ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory in October 2010 to provide one-stop and district-based community support services for persons with mental health problems and their family/carers as well as local residents.

- (b) & (c) SWD has been proactively identifying suitable sites for use by ICCMWs. Currently, 13 ICCMWs have secured permanent

accommodation while two others have identified permanent sites pending local consultation. SWD will continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments in identifying suitable premises in new development or redevelopment projects, vacant government properties, school premises and public housing units, etc. SWD will also consider supporting the rental expenses incurred for setting up temporary accommodation for use as ICCMWs at suitable commercial premises, and approval has already been given to four such applications.

- (d) & (e) As at the end of December 2011, ICCMWs had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had also participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised by ICCMWs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)249

Question Serial No.

1203

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What assistance will be available to pre-school autistic children, their parents and kindergartens in 2012-13? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply : The Administration strives to provide children with disabilities (including autistic children) from birth to six years old with early intervention through pre-school rehabilitation services, including early education and training centre (EETC), special child care centre (SCCC) and integrated programmes in kindergarten-cum-child care centre (IP), to enhance their physical, psychological and social developments, thereby improving their opportunities for participating in ordinary schools and daily life activities and helping their families meet their special needs. The provision of places as at the end of December 2011 and the estimated expenditure in 2012-13 of the above-mentioned services are as follows –

Type of Service	Provision of places (as at the end of December 2011)	2012-13 Estimated expenditure (\$ million)
EETC	2 481	166.7
SCCC	1 682	250.3
IP	1 860	89.3

Subject to smooth completion of the preparatory works, a total of 607 additional places of pre-school rehabilitation services will come on stream in 2012-13.

Furthermore, the Social Welfare Department also provides support services to parents and family members of children with disabilities at parents/relatives resource centres for disabled persons. These services aim to enhance their understanding and acceptance of children with disabilities, thereby providing better care for them, through individual counselling, group discussions, community education and other activities.

Children with autistic features may also suffer from other kinds of disabilities (e.g. learning difficulties, speech impairment, etc.). In this regard, we provide pre-school services for children with disabilities through an integrated mode in order to cater for their needs at various stages of development, as well as to allow flexibility and achieve effective use of resources. Under this integrated service mode, there is no breakdown of expenditure specifically for autistic children.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare; and (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As some of the Chinese children born in Hong Kong to non-Hong Kong residents are gradually becoming of school-age, they might return to and settle in Hong Kong and become users of relevant services provided by the Social Welfare Department (SWD). In this regard, will SWD increase the estimated expenditure on relevant services for the financial year 2012-13? If yes, please set out in detail the relevant expenditure items and figures.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply : A wide range of welfare services is available for Hong Kong residents, including Chinese children born in Hong Kong to non-Hong Kong residents. There is no breakdown of the expenditure/estimated expenditure on the relevant welfare services specifically for these children.

To enhance the support for families and children, the provision for family and child welfare services in the 2012-13 estimate has increased by 12.9% as compared with the 2011-12 revised estimate to \$2,121.3 million. SWD will continue to closely monitor the demand for different welfare services and increase the provision where necessary.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the numbers of elders waitlisting for places in the following categories of homes at each month in the past three years (i.e. 2009-10 to 2011-12) –
- (i) private residential care homes for the elderly participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS);
 - (ii) subsidised nursing homes (NHs); and
 - (iii) subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) homes?
- (b) What is the general waiting time for admission to the three categories of homes mentioned above?
- (c) What is the estimated number of residential care places to be increased in the next three years? To which category of homes will the additional places belong? What is the expected waiting time to be shortened?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply : Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or EBPS homes. The Social Welfare Department only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole.

For the years from 2009-10 to 2011-12, the numbers of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places by the end of each month are provided as follows –

Month \ Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
April	18 175	19 577	20 409
May	18 323	19 800	20 575
June	18 576	19 799	20 937
July	18 694	19 798	21 106
August	18 925	20 009	21 183
September	19 186	20 328	21 109
October	19 337	20 342	21 293
November	19 546	20 370	21 427
December	19 545	20 519	21 283
January	19 592	20 395	21 238
February	19 519	20 355	Not available
March	19 556	20 342	Not available

For the years from 2009-10 to 2011-12, the numbers of applicants waitlisted for subsidised NH places by the end of each month are provided as follows –

Month \ Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
April	6 259	6 257	6 411
May	6 273	6 365	6 399
June	6 384	6 392	6 512
July	6 330	6 380	6 548
August	6 348	6 458	6 572
September	6 340	6 535	6 598
October	6 385	6 449	6 624
November	6 465	6 471	6 704
December	6 415	6 581	6 575
January	6 334	6 471	6 518
February	6 274	6 388	Not available
March	6 259	6 409	Not available

The average waiting time for admission to NH places, C&A places in subvented/contract homes, and C&A places in EBPS homes for admitted cases in the three months before 31 December 2011 were 37 months, 34 months and eight months respectively. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

From 2011-12 to 2014-15, over 2 600 new residential care places will commence service, of which about 1 250 are NH places (representing about 50% of the existing provision) and about 1 400 are C&A places (including EBPS places).

The additional places will help ease the pressure on waiting time. However, as the waiting time for subsidised RCS places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes; whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home; the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the implementation of the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Services for Frail Elders (the Scheme) in Kowloon, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What was the number of elders participating in the Scheme in 2011-12? What was the expenditure involved?
- (b) Will the Administration submit an interim report on the Scheme to review its effectiveness? If yes, when will the report be available?
- (c) Will the Administration consider extending the Scheme to cover all districts across the territory? If yes, what are the details? What is the additional expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

- Reply :
- (a) The Scheme aims to provide a new package of home care services for elders waiting for nursing home places so as to better serve their special needs and help relieve the pressure on their carers, thereby encouraging elders to age in place. The total expenditure for the Scheme is about \$55 million from the Lotteries Fund. As at the end of January 2012, a total of 385 elders had received services. The estimated expenditure in 2011-12 is \$15.5 million.
 - (b) A steering committee has been set up to give strategic advice and oversee its implementation. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) plans to report progress of the Scheme to the Legislative Council in 2013.

- (c) SWD will decide on the way forward of the Scheme in the light of the experience and outcomes achieved over the three-year period.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)253

Question Serial No.

0249

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In considering the integration of various employment assistance programmes under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the details of the work;
- (b) the estimated expenditure and manpower involved; and
- (c) the completion date of the review?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

- Reply :
- (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) proposes to integrate various employment assistance programmes under the CSSA Scheme, with a view to enhancing effectiveness and achieving synergy. SWD is seeking the views of stakeholders including the operating agencies and plans to invite non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to submit proposals for operating the integrated programme in 2012.
 - (b) NGOs will be commissioned to operate the integrated employment assistance programme. The estimated expenditure for the integration of the employment assistance programmes is about \$230 million for a period of around 27 months.
 - (c) The review of the integration of employment assistance programmes will be completed in 2012 and the integrated employment assistance programme will commence operation in early 2013.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)254

Question Serial No.

0250

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In maintaining the efficient and effective delivery of the social security schemes, and combating fraud and abuse, would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the manpower and expenditure involved in approving cases of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and Social Security Allowance (SSA) in 2011-12; and
- (b) the manpower and expenditure involved in combating fraud and abuse?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

- Reply :
- (a) Currently, 1 171 social security grade posts are involved in approving CSSA and SSA cases. The estimated expenditure in 2011-12 is \$427.4 million.
 - (b) Currently, there are 120 social security grade posts in the Special Investigation Section, who specialise in the prevention and detection of fraud and abuse of social security benefits. In view of the complexity of fraud investigation, eight retired officers from the discipline forces have also been appointed as fraud investigation advisors to enhance the investigation techniques of the investigation officers of the Fraud Investigation Teams under the Special Investigation Section. The estimated expenditure involved in combating fraud and abuse in 2011-12 is \$48.2 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to set up three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2012-13. What are the specific locations of the three IFSCs? What is the annual expenditure of each IFSC? How many staff members are expected to be employed by each IFSC? What are their posts and ranks?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : The locations of the three IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected growth and profile of the population, etc. The average provision for each new IFSC will be around \$10 million per annum.

The manpower provision of each new IFSC, including supervisor, frontline social workers and support staff, will be arranged with reference to the service needs and characteristics of the locality. For IFSCs operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the NGOs concerned have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 58 of the Budget Speech that the Administration plans to allocate \$900 million under the Lotteries Fund to improve the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 district elderly community centres (DECCs), neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs) and social centres for the elderly (SEs) across the territory. This will enhance the community support services for elderly people and their carers. What are the details of the programme? What are the respective numbers of eligible DECCs, NECs and SEs? What is the amount of provision to be allocated to each of these centres? When will the programme be completed? Regarding the enhancement of community support services for elderly people and their carers, what are the details of these services? What are the estimated manpower and expenditure respectively?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : The Social Welfare Department will seek funding of \$900 million from the Lotteries Fund with a view to improving the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 elderly centres, i.e. 41 district elderly community centres, 118 neighbourhood elderly centres, 51 social centres for the elderly and 40 self-financing centres for the elderly. The funding to be allocated to each centre will depend on the type and actual size of the centre. We will implement the improvement programme in phases over six years starting from 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration set up two new contract homes for the elderly in 2011. In which districts are they located ? What are the respective numbers of places provided by them and what are their current enrolment rates?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : The Social Welfare Department awarded contracts for two new residential care homes for the elderly in 2011. Both are located in Yau Tsim Mong district, with one home providing 55 subsidised and 36 non-subsidised residential care places and the other providing 60 subsidised and 40 non-subsidised residential care places. They are now doing fitting-out works and will tentatively commence service in October 2012.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the numbers of subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) places, subsidised nursing home (NH) places, subsidised C&A and NH places in contract homes, C&A places of the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and NH places of the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme (NHPPS) respectively in each of the 18 districts in the territory? How many elders are waitlisting for the above-mentioned places respectively in each of the 18 districts?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : The numbers of subsidised residential care places for the elderly by district as at the end of December 2011 were as follows –

District	Number of places				
	C&A ^[Note 1]	NH ^[Note 2] (NHPPS)	Contract home ^[Note 3]		EBPS
			C&A	NH	
Central & Western	236	0	22	131	488
Eastern	424	0	55	93	295
Wan Chai	462	0	0	0	54
Southern	1 332	0	0	0	397
Islands	315	0	7	63	42
Kwun Tong	1 075	250 (12)	46	133	549
Wong Tai Sin	1 021	280	76	111	242

District	Number of places				
	C&A ^[Note 1]	NH ^[Note 2] (NHPPS)	Contract home ^[Note 3]		EBPS
			C&A	NH	
Sai Kung	940	292 (22)	0	0	0
Kowloon City	641	0	100	0	1 097
Sham Shui Po	703	0	42	95	285
Yau Tsim Mong	98	0	0	0	577
Sha Tin	1 240	0	0	0	0
Tai Po	1 179	0	0	0	98
North	875	299 (45)	0	0	317
Yuen Long	924	0	23	50	773
Tsuen Wan	511	316	22	52	821
Kwai Tsing	1 595	60 (60)	58	227	841
Tuen Mun	898	216	0	0	402
Total	14 469	1 713 (139)	451	955	7 278

^[Note 1] The number of self-care (S/C) and home for the aged (H/A) places is not included. C&A places also include the places providing continuum-of-care converted from S/C and H/A participating in the conversion programme.

^[Note 2] NH places also include NHPPS places. The number of NHPPS places is shown in brackets.

^[Note 3] Contract home provides both C&A and NH places.

Since all applicants for subsidised residential care places (including subsidised NH places and C&A places) are put under the Central Waiting List for service allocation on a territory-wide basis, there is no separate waiting list for individual districts.

Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or EBPS homes. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole. Similarly, SWD only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for NH places as a whole. These places are provided by subvented NHs, self-financing NHs under NHPPS and contract homes.

As at the end of December 2011, the numbers of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A and NH places were 21 283 and 6 575 respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Budget (paragraph 59 of the Budget Speech) that the Administration will allocate another \$100 million to the short-term food assistance services when necessary, so as to extend and improve the short-term food assistance services, such as providing a wider variety of foods along with fresh foods. As learnt from the media reports, there are organisations in the community carrying out fruits and vegetables recycling, and that there are organisations providing services on food assistance also involve in food recycling. Would the Administration please advise how it would utilise the additional resources effectively to facilitate co-operation between the organisations concerned and the green groups to recover the unsold fresh fruits and vegetables in the market, for the purpose of integrating a green element into the short-term food assistance services?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned five non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in February 2009 to operate five short-term food assistance service projects (the Projects) covering the whole territory to help individuals and families who have difficulties coping with their daily food expenditure. In 2011-12, the Administration has allocated an additional funding of \$100 million to continue and enhance the services under the Projects. Apart from funding the Projects, SWD has been encouraging NGOs to collaborate with different sectors to provide various forms of food assistance to individuals and families in need, including collecting cooked food that had not been served, unsold food from the markets, etc.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under Programme (2) Social Security, would the Administration please provide the following information –

- (a) a breakdown of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) payments and the number of recipients, by category of cases, in 2010-11 and 2011-12;
- (b) a breakdown of the number of cases and the number of recipients respectively under the “single parent”, “unemployment” and “low-earnings” categories, by the duration of stay on CSSA, in 2010-11 and 2011-12;
- (c) a breakdown of the numbers of cases with employment earnings, by range of earnings, in 2010-11 and 2011-12;
- (d) a breakdown of the numbers of recipients with employment earnings, by range of earnings, in 2010-11 and 2011-12; and
- (e) a breakdown of the number of “low earnings” CSSA cases transferred from other case categories (including the number of cases and the number of recipients) (by comparing the figures as at the end of 2010 with those as at the end of 2011).

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : (a) The average numbers of CSSA recipients per month and CSSA expenditures by case nature in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Case nature	2010-11 (Actual)	
	Average number of CSSA recipients per month	CSSA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 1]
Old age	197 704	9,477
Permanent disability	26 482	1,168
Ill health	43 592	1,754
Single parent	86 347	2,942
Low-earnings	49 461	1,069
Unemployment	56 338	1,660
Others	11 111	423
Total	471 035	18,493

Case nature	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	
	Average number of CSSA recipients per month	CSSA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 1]
Old age	197 000	10,115
Permanent disability	26 200	1,312
Ill health	42 400	1,959
Single parent	82 000	3,059
Low-earnings	44 000	1,039
Unemployment	50 400	1,631
Others	11 100	463
Total	453 100	19,578

(b) The numbers of cases and recipients in CSSA single parent (SP), unemployment (UT) and low-earnings (LE) categories with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA, in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Table 1 : Number of CSSA cases with eligible members by duration of stay on CSSA and by case nature ^[Note 2]						
Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2010-11			2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)		
	SP cases ^[Note 3]	UT cases	LE cases	SP cases ^[Note 3]	UT cases	LE cases
1 or less	2 672	4 003	776	2 278	3 145	544
More than 1 - 2	3 068	3 474	1 039	2 624	2 463	681
More than 2 - 3	2 846	2 687	913	2 929	2 744	875
More than 3 - 4	2 217	1 618	708	2 320	1 855	679
More than 4 - 5	2 325	1 553	846	2 055	1 322	603
More than 5	19 120	11 745	8 620	18 450	11 063	7 428
Total	32 248	25 080	12 902	30 656	22 592	10 810

Table 2 : Number of CSSA recipients involved by duration of stay on CSSA and by case nature ^[Note 2]						
Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2010-11			2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)		
	SP cases ^[Note 3]	UT cases	LE cases	SP cases ^[Note 3]	UT cases	LE cases
1 or less	7 589	7 191	3 325	6 672	5 794	2 530
More than 1 - 2	8 353	6 700	4 237	7 255	4 772	2 905
More than 2 - 3	7 586	5 303	3 716	7 874	5 423	3 521
More than 3 - 4	6 094	3 278	3 042	6 111	3 649	2 867
More than 4 - 5	6 280	3 303	3 443	5 510	2 648	2 569
More than 5	47 963	27 094	29 650	45 826	24 512	25 717
Total	83 865	52 869	47 413	79 248	46 798	40 109

(c) The numbers of CSSA cases with employment earnings, with breakdown by the range of such earnings, in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Note 2] _

Employment earnings	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	5 673	5 373
\$1,000 – less than \$2,000	4 499	3 930
\$2,000 – less than \$3,000	4 631	3 110
\$3,000 – less than \$4,000	4 528	4 854

Employment earnings	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
\$4,000 – less than \$5,000	3 647	3 428
\$5,000 – less than \$6,000	3 442	2 325
\$6,000 – less than \$7,000	3 101	2 738
\$7,000 – less than \$8,000	2 021	2 040
\$8,000 – less than \$9,000	1 192	1 500
\$9,000 – less than \$10,000	605	878
\$10,000 or above	1 042	1 011
Total	34 381	31 187

(d) The numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings, with breakdown by the range of such earnings, in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Note 2] –

Employment earnings	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	6 181	5 790
\$1,000 – less than \$2,000	5 169	4 399
\$2,000 – less than \$3,000	5 290	3 485
\$3,000 – less than \$4,000	5 082	5 439
\$4,000 – less than \$5,000	4 059	3 742
\$5,000 – less than \$6,000	3 819	2 511
\$6,000 – less than \$7,000	3 299	2 884
\$7,000 – less than \$8,000	2 018	2 101
\$8,000 – less than \$9,000	1 047	1 471
\$9,000 – less than \$10,000	451	746
\$10,000 or above	476	532
Total	36 891	33 100

- (e) Of the 12 319 low-earnings cases involving 40 552 recipients as at the end of December 2011, 1 887 cases involving 5 929 recipients belonged to other categories as at the end of December 2010. Details are as follows –

Case nature as at the end of December 2010	Number of low earnings cases changed from cases of other nature as at the end of December 2011	Number of recipients involved
Old age	347	1 076
Permanent disability	54	154
Ill health	213	695
Single parent	283	736
Unemployment	899	3 001
Others	91	267
Total	1 887	5 929

[Note 1] Expenditure included one additional month of standard rate payment in each of the years. Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding effect.

[Note 2] Except for 2011-12, figures in the table are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 3] Excluding CSSA single parent cases with only one eligible member.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)261

Question Serial No.

1768

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the total number of elders who had waitlisted for nursing home (NH) places in the years 2010 and 2011 respectively? How many of them were allocated with NH places, withdrew their applications or passed away while waitlisting?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : There were 9 539 elders waitlisted for subsidised NH places in 2010. Among them, 605 elders were allocated places, 292 withdrew their applications and 1 823 passed away while waitlisting for NH places.

There were 9 885 elders waitlisted for subsidised NH places in 2011. Among them, 775 elders were allocated places, 339 withdrew their applications and 1 958 passed away while waitlisting for NH places.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 182 of the Budget Speech by the Financial Secretary that additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) across the territory. In this connection, would the Administration please provide the number of service users of ICCMWs at present by district. What are the numbers of nurses and allied health professionals in ICCMWs? Please provide the breakdown by district.

Furthermore, with additional funding provided, what is the estimated number of additional service users? What are the numbers of additional nurses and allied health professionals required? Please provide the breakdown by district.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The ICCMWs have commenced service at 24 service points in the territory since October 2010. As at the end of December 2011, they had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised by the ICCMWs. With an additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13, we estimate that the ICCMWs will serve about 25 500 discharged mental patients and persons with mental health problems as well as their family members/carers per year. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have

the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing, including nurses and allied health professionals, to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)263

Question Serial No.

1585

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Since the implementation of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) service, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) Are there any statistics on the number of service users? If yes, please provide a breakdown of each centre. If no, will the Administration consider keeping the statistics on the utilisation of the service? How will the Administration assess the effectiveness of each centre and allocate additional resources to meet the demand; and
- (b) Has any assessment been conducted on the required and existing numbers of health care staff and allied health professional? If yes, please provide a breakdown of each centre. If no, will the Administration conduct an assessment and make corresponding increase as appropriate?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : (a) & (b) The ICCMWs have commenced service at 24 service points in the territory since October 2010. As at the end of December 2011, they had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised. Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management Programme of the Hospital Authority for patients with severe mental illness and provide service for more people in need. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing, including health care staff and allied

health professionals, to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Provision for 2012-13 is 6.0% higher than the revised estimate for 2011-12, partly due to additional provision for strengthening the manpower of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of additional staff to be employed, and among which the respective numbers of health care staff and allied health professionals to be employed?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Administration has secured additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management Programme of the Hospital Authority for patients with severe mental illness and provide services for more people in need. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subventions to arrange suitable staffing, including health care staff and allied health professionals, to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The numbers of places for halfway houses (HWHs) and long stay care homes (LSCHs) for discharged mental patients will be increased in 2012-13. In this regard, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the additional resources and manpower involved for increasing the number of places?
- (b) What is the detail of the mechanism for assessing the number of additional places required?
- (c) With regard to encouraging the discharged mental patients to integrate into the community, has the Administration assessed whether the additional places in the HWHs and LSCHs are sufficient to meet demands? If yes, please give the details; if no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

- Reply :
- (a) In 2012-13, the Administration will increase 25 places of HWH and 75 places of LSCH. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.
 - (b) & (c) The planned provision is made having regard to demand for the respective services and availability of suitable premises for setting

up the services. The Social Welfare Department will regularly review the service demand and seek resources to increase the provision as appropriate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)266

Question Serial No.

1588

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2011, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) provided enhanced medical social services for children with autism and persons with mental health problems. In this regard, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What were the types of medical social services provided?
- (b) What were the respective number of target users served under the enhancement?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

- Reply :
- (a) Medical social workers (MSWs) of SWD are stationed in psychiatric hospitals and clinics of the Hospital Authority to provide medical social services to children with autism and persons with mental health problems as well as their families/carers. The MSWs provide timely psychosocial intervention to the service users and help them cope with or solve problems arising from their illness. A range of support services such as counselling service, referrals for various welfare benefits and community resources are provided as and when appropriate.
 - (b) With the enhanced medical social services, it is estimated that each MSW will be able to handle around 66 active cases per month.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding vocational rehabilitation services, the enrolment rate of sheltered workshops (SWs) exceeded 100% in the past two years. In this connection, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) The two SWs currently operated by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will be hived off to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for continuous operation in April 2012 and the estimated enrolment rate of the subvented sector will be maintained at 102%. Does the Administration have any measures to ensure that the enrolment rate of the subvented NGOs will not be further burdened after the hiving-off?
- (b) What are the reasons for the enrolment rate of SWs exceeding 100% in the past two years?
- (c) Are there any measures to help reduce the enrolment rate of SWs to below 100%, such as providing additional resources? If yes, please give the details.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : Noting that the daily attendance rate of SWs stood at around 90% for a considerable period of time, SWD has implemented an over-enrolment arrangement in SWs since 2003-04 with a view to enabling more persons with disabilities to benefit from the service. This arrangement applies to the two SWs

currently operated by SWD and such arrangement will continue to apply after they are handed over to NGOs for continuous operation. Despite this arrangement, the number of persons with disabilities served at any one time has not exceeded/will not exceed the capacity of the SWs. Hence, additional resources are not required.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)268

Question Serial No.

1963

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In paragraph 57 of the Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary proposed to further increase resources to allow eligible residential care homes and day care centres or units (DEs/DCUs) for the elderly to have more resources for engaging professional staff or procuring related professional services to strengthen the care for demented elders. In this regard, would the Administration please provide information on the current number of residential care homes which have engaged additional allied health professionals/procured related services and among the staff engaged, the number of allied health professionals by types of their professions? Based on the estimate of the Administration, how many additional residential care homes can engage additional allied health professionals/procured related services after the increase in resources? If the residential care homes encounter difficulties in engaging professional staff, how will the Administration help them to solve the problems?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : To enhance the support for demented elders in subsidised residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), private RCHEs under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme and subsidised DEs/DCUs, about 270 RCHEs and about 50 DEs/DCUs are allocated with \$71.2 million by way of Dementia Supplement (DS) in 2011-12. With the DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services. The estimated number of allied health professionals by professions is not available. An additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million under DS will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs who can employ additional professional staff. The total recurrent allocation will then become \$208.4 million. It is estimated that DS will be allocated to a total of about 270 RCHEs and about 60 DEs/DCUs in 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In paragraph 178 of the Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary stated that a pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly would be planned. What will be the resources, manpower involved, and the details and implementation schedule of the scheme?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Administration consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the preliminary proposal of the pilot scheme on community care service (CCS) voucher for the elderly (the scheme) on 13 February 2012. The scheme will adopt a new funding mode, whereby the Administration provides subsidy directly to the service users instead of the service providers. To fully test the funding mode, the scheme will last for four years and be implemented in two phases. Elders who have been assessed to have impairment at moderate level or above may participate in the scheme. They may choose the service provider, the type of service and the service package which best suit their needs. For the first phase of the scheme, we will target elders who have impairment at moderate level. A co-payment and means-test mechanism will be introduced and a single voucher value at \$5,000 per month is proposed, with Government subsidy ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,500. The scheme will be launched in selected districts. Selection of districts will be based on the district profile as well as the readiness of service providers to provide the services. For the first phase, we will invite non-governmental organisations and non-profit organisations (including social enterprises) to participate as they are more experienced in the provision of CCS to elders.

The estimated expenditure required for the scheme will be determined at a later stage. We will seek one-off funding support from the Lotteries Fund for the scheme and continue with the preparatory work, such as drawing up the implementation details, consulting stakeholders and developing information technology infrastructure, with a view to launching the first phase of the scheme in 2013-14.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS), will the Administration consider allocating additional resources to establish a certification scheme with a view to improving the service quality of these homes? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has already prescribed enhanced service requirements in terms of staffing and spatial standards for RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS). The enhanced standards apply to the entire home, hence benefiting also the users of non-subsidised places. Among the bought places, there is also a distinction between EA1 and EA2 places. EA1 places are subject to even higher standards, and it is the Government's policy direction to provide more of them. To this end, SWD plans to upgrade about 600 EA2 places to EA1 and purchase an additional 112 EA1 places in 2012-13. The additional recurrent financial provision is \$25.3 million.

To promote quality enhancement, SWD encourages RCHEs to join professional certification schemes, and provides incentive for them to do so by giving certified RCHEs higher scores under EBPS. SWD is also working with the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (a unit under the Innovation and Technology Commission) and the RCHE sector in a Task Force on Certification of RCHE to introduce an accredited certification scheme for RCHEs. With this scheme in place, operators of RCHE certification schemes (known as the certification bodies) will themselves be subject to accreditation. This will provide assurance to users and the public that these certification bodies are capable of assessing and certifying RCHEs' performance professionally and in accordance with international practice.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the quality of the nursing homes (NHs), will the Administration provide additional resources to increase the number of inspections to NHs? If yes, please give the details. What is the expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : An additional allocation of \$0.5 million will be made in 2012-13 to the Contract Management Section of the Social Welfare Department to increase its manpower for enhancing monitoring of contract residential care homes for the elderly with nursing home places and handling various administrative duties.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)272

Question Serial No.

1969

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will increase the number of nursing home (NH) places in 2012-13. In this connection, has the Administration assessed whether the waiting time of the elders will be shortened with the increase in the number of NH places? If yes, how long will be the waiting time? If not, will the Administration allocate more resources to further shorten the waiting time for the elders?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The additional provision of subsidised NH places will help ease the pressure on waiting time. However, as the waiting time for subsidised NH places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes, whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home, the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., we cannot estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional provision.

From 2011-12 to 2014-15, over 2 600 new residential care places will commence service, of which about 1 250 are nursing home places (representing about 50% of the existing provision). We will focus our resources on NH places and continue to increase the provision to meet the demand.

It has to be noted that elders waiting for subsidised NH places can also receive community care services. We will therefore enhance the community care services to the elders waiting for subsidised NH places to help them age at home.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)273

Question Serial No.

1970

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the community care and support services under the Programme on “Services for Elders”, the Administration will increase the number of cases served for enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) in the 2012-13 estimate. However, there will be no increase in the number of cases served by other services, including: social centres for the elderly, district elderly community centres, day care centres for the elderly, integrated home care services etc. What are the reasons? Has the Administration assessed the utilisation rate of the said services? What are the details? If there is under-utilisation, will the Administration allocate more resources and enhance services to cater for the needs of the elders?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The allocation for community care and support services for the elderly has been increased from \$1,382.2 million in 2011-12 to \$1,505.6 million in 2012-13. Other than the additional provision of 500 EHCCS places, one additional Neighbourhood Elderly Centre and 225 day care places for the elderly are expected to commence service in 2012-13. We will also continue to implement the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Services for Frail Elders. The Social Welfare Department will keep in view the service demand for community care services, taking into account various considerations including the utilisation rate of the service.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration would continue to organise the Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector for strengthening of manpower. Would the Administration consider providing additional resources to improve the pay package of nurses so as to help recruit and retain nurses?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has obtained additional resources of \$344 million from the Lotteries Fund for allocation to the welfare non-governmental organisations concerned for a further period of three years from 2012-13 to 2014-15 to enable them to offer more competitive salaries for the recruitment and retention of paramedical staff (including nurses) or for the hiring of paramedical services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will continue to help implement the Pilot Scheme on Visiting Pharmacist Services (the Scheme) for residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the number of RCHEs served by the Scheme since its implementation and the number as a percentage of the total number of RCHEs in the territory? What is the number of pharmacists required?
- (b) Please list the numbers and hours of visits to RCHEs by pharmacists based on the type of services provided under the Scheme.
- (c) Will the Administration consider increasing the resources to let more RCHEs use the services from visiting pharmacists so as to minimise medication incidents?
- (d) Has the Administration considered regularising the Scheme? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

- Reply :
- (a) Since the launching of the three-year Scheme in 2010-11, a total of 46 RCHEs, about 6% of all RCHEs in the territory, have participated in the Scheme. Three full-time and five part-time pharmacists served in the first phase (2010-11); and three full-time and nine part-time pharmacists in the second phase (2011-12).
 - (b) By 31 December 2011, the visiting pharmacists had paid 2 775 visits to 46 RCHEs and provided 9 992 service hours. They had completed 4 325 medication reconciliations, 3 025 medication reviews and answered 105 calls via a telephone hotline.

- (c) The Administration has earmarked \$5 million for the Scheme and plans to invite about 20-25 more RCHEs to participate in the third phase of the Scheme in 2012-13.
- (d) The Administration will review the effectiveness of the Scheme and decide on the way forward upon the completion of the Scheme in mid-2013.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)276

Question Serial No.

2797

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Despite the ever increasing demand for family and child services, there has been no increase in the number of clinical psychologists in 2012-13. Why? Will the Administration increase the resources to employ more clinical psychologists to meet service demands? If so, please provide details. If not, why?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : There has been no substantial change in the average caseload of clinical psychologists in the past few years. The Social Welfare Department will continue to closely monitor the demand for clinical psychological services and increase the resources as necessary.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will continue to monitor the implementation of the pilot scheme on Home Care Services for Persons with Severe Disabilities (the Pilot Scheme). Please inform this Committee of the number of service users, the details of the services, the manpower and the expenditure involved in the Pilot Scheme since its implementation.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has earmarked \$163 million under the Lotteries Fund to implement the Pilot Scheme for three years. The Pilot Scheme, which has commenced service since March 2011, provides home-based support services (i.e. personal care and escort service, occupational therapist/physiotherapist rehabilitation training service and nursing care service) for persons with severe disabilities who are living in Kwun Tong District or Tuen Mun District and are on the waiting lists for subvented residential care services. The Pilot Scheme has been extended to Wong Tai Sin District and Kwai Tsing District since September 2011 in view of the service demand. The operating non-governmental organisations have committed to providing social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, nurses and other caring and supporting staff under the Pilot Scheme. As at the end of January 2012, the Pilot Scheme has served over 300 persons with severe disabilities.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will set up three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs). Please provide information on the proposed districts in which the three IFSCs will be located, the estimated number of beneficiary families, the manpower involved and the schedule for service commencement.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The locations of the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected population growth and profile of the population, etc. Each IFSC will serve a well-defined geographical boundary with a population of around 100 000 to 150 000.

The manpower provision of the new IFSCs will be arranged with reference to the service needs and characteristics of their respective localities. For IFSCs operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the NGOs concerned have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

The three new IFSCs will commence operation tentatively by end-2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will monitor the implementation of the regularised Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP). In this regard, please provide information on the number of cases handled under the regularised NSCCP, effectiveness of NSCCP and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : Upon the regularisation of NSCCP in October 2011, the service coverage is extended from 11 administrative districts of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to all 18 districts to benefit more families in need. The total number of children served under NSCCP from October to December 2011 was 1 894. SWD will continue to work closely with the service operators to assess the effectiveness of NSCCP according to the agreed performance measurement. The estimated recurrent provision for NSCCP in 2012-13 is \$36.3 million. The service operators have the flexibility of deploying appropriate manpower to run the project, and there must be at least one social worker for each project.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the financial provision and staffing establishment of Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services, there will be a net decrease of 35 posts in 2012-13. What are the reasons? What are the ranks of the posts involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The net decrease of 35 posts in 2012-13 results from the deletion of 40 posts in the Social Work Officer, Social Work Assistant, Welfare Worker, Workshop Instructor, Cook, Hostel Manager/Manageress, Motor Driver, Property Attendant, Ward Attendant grades and supporting general grades, offset by the creation of five posts in the Architect, Structural Engineer, Clerk of Works, Survey Officer grades and supporting general grades. Deletion of the posts will take effect upon hiving off the two departmental rehabilitation hostels for operation by non-governmental organisations and completion of time-limited projects. The creation of the posts is to strengthen the architectural manpower support in implementing new works projects for development, redevelopment, major conversion or extension of welfare premises to meet the demand of rehabilitation services and strengthen the manpower support for processing applications for the Lotteries Fund.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the services for young people, the numbers of school social work and outreaching social work cases served in 2012-13 are anticipated to increase as compared with that of last year. Will the manpower provision of both services be increased in 2012-13? If yes, what are the details? If no, why does the average caseload per worker remain unchanged?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : There has been a 20% increase in manpower, i.e. 96 additional school social workers (SSWs) with effect from September 2011. As the additional SSWs will take more new cases, the overall number of cases served under the 2012-13 estimate has taken into account the full-year workload of the additional staff. We estimate that the caseload per SSW will remain unchanged.

As there will be three additional youth outreaching teams in 2012-13, the overall estimated number of cases served by outreaching social work teams is expected to increase. We estimate that the caseload per worker will remain unchanged.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Since the 2000/01 school year, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has implemented the “one school social worker for each secondary school” policy in all secondary schools in Hong Kong to provide appropriate support and counselling services to students who have academic, social and emotional problems. School social workers also make referrals for students in need to receive clinical psychological services, having regard to the nature and seriousness of individual cases. How many students, broken down by class levels and nature of cases, were referred by social workers to receive clinical psychological services in each of the past three years?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply : School social workers offer various support and counselling services to students according to their individual needs, including referral to clinical psychological services operated by various organisations, including SWD, the Hospital Authority and non-governmental organisations. SWD does not have statistics on referrals to clinical psychological services by school social workers broken down by nature and level as the reasons for such referrals often involve a combination of factors, such as family and emotional problems.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)283

Question Serial No.

1475

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Social workers will make referrals for young people participating in compensated dating activities to receive clinical psychological services, having regard to the nature and seriousness of individual cases. If a girl feels distressed mentally and physically due to compensated dating under duress, or suffers from other psychological problems due to compensated dating, social workers will refer the girl concerned to clinical psychologists for psychological assessment and treatment. In each of the past three years, how many people participating in compensated dating were referred by social workers to receive clinical psychological services?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply : Social workers offer various support and counselling services to young people according to their needs, including referral to clinical psychological services. The need for clinical psychological services, in particular, stems from a host of factors, such as family and emotional problems. As such, we do not capture figures of referrals to clinical psychological services owing to compensated dating.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the preparatory work for a new scheme to provide Old Age Allowance to Hong Kong elders who choose to live in Guangdong (GD), what is the progress of this work? What is the implementation timetable? Will additional manpower be required for taking forward the scheme? Has any funding been earmarked in this year for implementing the scheme? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply : The Administration is drawing up the details of the GD Scheme (including the resource requirements) and aims at developing more concrete plans in the first half of 2012. The Administration endeavours to launch the Scheme around mid-2013.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : At present what are the numbers of elders benefiting from the Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) Scheme in Guangdong and Fujian; what are the numbers of PCSSA cases in these two provinces and the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) payments involved? How many new applications were received in each of the past three years? How many of them were approved? How many of them were rejected and what were the reasons? How many recipients left the Scheme owing to death or other reasons? What was the average cost per case served?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply : As at the end of January 2012, there were 2 274 PCSSA cases in Guangdong and 169 PCSSA cases in Fujian, involving 2 389 and 188 recipients respectively. The estimated total expenditure on PCSSA payments for 2011-12 is \$96 million.

The statistics on PCSSA cases from 2009-10 to 2011-12 are as follows –

PCSSA cases ^[Note 1]	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Number of applications received ^[Note 2]	357	316	161
Number of applications approved	339	299	137
Number of applications rejected with breakdown by reasons stated below –	23	21	21
i) not meeting the minimum qualifying age of 60	5	6	4
ii) withdrawal of application	14	9	12
iii) other reasons	4	6	5

PCSSA cases ^[Note 1]	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)
Number of cases left the PCSSA Scheme with breakdown by reasons stated below –	450	461	357
i) death	322	337	258
ii) other reasons	128	124	99

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers of cases presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 2] The number of applications received was not equal to the sum of the number of applications approved and rejected in the year as there were cases brought forward from the preceding year, and cases not yet completed and carried forward to the next year.

The Social Welfare Department has commissioned a non-governmental organisation as the agent to provide services for PCSSA recipients and the estimated expenditure for 2011-12 is \$2.1 million. We do not have information on the average cost per case served.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Over the past three years, how much resources had the Administration provided to early education and training centres (EETCs), special child care centres (SCCCs) and integrated programmes in ordinary kindergarten-cum-child care centres (IPs) for children with special educational needs at pre-school stage, so as to facilitate kindergarten teachers to early identify children with learning difficulties and provide assistance for them? Moreover, what kind of support has the Administration provided to help parents identify children with learning difficulties and seek professional assistance with a positive attitude?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply : The requested information is as follows –

Service Type	2009-10 (Actual) (\$ million)	2010-11 (Actual) (\$ million)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)
EETC	118.4	126.2	137.2
SCCC	198.2	204.7	221.4
IP	87.5	87.4	89.4

The Social Welfare Department will help parents accept and take care of their children with disabilities and provide them with support services such as counselling, group activities and community education at the parents/relatives resource centres with a view to fostering mutual support and better care for their children.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of children waitlisting for the following services and the average waiting time in the past three years: early education and training centres (EETCs), special child care centres (SCCCs), integrated programmes in kindergarten-cum-child care centres (IPs), occasional child care service for disabled children and small group homes for mildly mentally handicapped children/integrated small group homes.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply : The requested information is as follows –

Type of service	Waiting List/Waiting Time					
	Waiting List [as at the end of December 2009]	Waiting Time (in months) 2008-09	Waiting List [as at the end of December 2010]	Waiting Time (in months) 2009-10	Waiting List [as at the end of December 2011]	Waiting Time (in months) 2010-11
EETCs	1 816	8.6	2 462	10.0	3 153	11.6
SCCCs	829	12.4	1 033	12.8	1 240	14.9
IPs	859	8.6	1 101	8.7	1 271	10.0
Small group homes for mildly mentally handicapped children/integrated small group homes	63	14.9	52	23.1	62	22.4

The computerised system currently administered by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) does not capture the statistics on the number of applications and the waiting time for occasional child care services for the disabled children since the service unit provides drop-in service and admits children directly. SWD will, however, monitor the utilisation of the service as appropriate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)288

Question Serial No.

2326

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the average number of clients served by a clinical psychologist under clinical psychological support? What is the average waitlisting time? What is the interval of appointments with clinical psychologists? How long does each appointment last ?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : In 2010-11, the average active caseload for each clinical psychologist is about 44 at any given time. The average waiting time for a first appointment for new cases is 4 to 8 weeks. Urgent cases will normally be given the first appointment in a week or earlier. On average, a client meets a clinical psychologist once every two to four weeks, each time for one to two hours, depending on the nature and severity of the case. For more intensive cases, the sessions will be more frequent.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)289

Question Serial No.

2327

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the average waitlisting time for intensive counselling, brief counselling and supportive casework services provided by Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively? What is the average number of cases handled by each social worker per month?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : Social workers of IFSCs will assess the welfare needs of individuals or families who approach IFSCs for services and provide timely and appropriate assistance to them. Making reference to the total number of cases served by IFSCs as at the end of each month, the average number of cases served by each IFSC social worker per month was 46.2, 45.1 and 42.8 in 2009-10, 2010-11 and the first half of 2011-12 respectively.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : For years 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and estimate for 2012-13, please provide the numbers of people waitlisting for the following facilities, the average waiting time, the number of people passed away during the waitlisting period, with a breakdown by 18 districts and the mode of operation of these facilities (run by public/private sector), and the estimate of additional places required for clearing the queue within five years –

- (a) District elderly community centres (DECCs)
- (b) Neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs)
- (c) Social centres for the elderly (SEs)
- (d) Day care centres for the elderly/Day care units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs)
- (e) Self-care (S/C) hostels/Homes for the aged (H/A)
- (f) Care-and-attention (C&A) homes
- (g) Nursing homes (NHs)

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : The services provided by DECCs, NECs and S/Es are open to all members of the public aged 60 or above, and there is no limit on the number of members. Therefore, there is no waiting list or waiting time for services provided by these centres.

The number of applicants for subsidised DEs/DCUs and the average waiting time for admission from 2009-10 to 2011-12 were as follows –

As at the end of the year ^[Note1]	Number of applicants	Waiting time ^[Note2] (in months)
2009-10	1 035	6
2010-11	1 423	9
2011-12 (as at 31 January 2012)	1 761	9

^[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

^[Note 2] Waiting time for admitted cases in March of the respective years.

There are no separate waiting lists for individual districts.

The number of elders who passed away while waitlisting for subsidised DE places in the past three years was as follows –

Year	Number of elders passed away while waitlisting for DE places
2009	17
2010	18
2011	32

For subsidised residential care services, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has ceased to accept new application for placement in S/C hostels and H/A since 1 January 2003. Therefore, there is no waiting list or waiting time for these two services. Besides, all applicants for subsidised residential care services (including subsidised NH places and C&A places) are put on the Central Waiting List for service allocation on a territory-wide basis. There is no separate waiting list for individual districts.

Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) homes. SWD only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole. Similarly, SWD only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for NH places provided by subvented NHs, self-financing NHs and contract homes.

The number of applicants for subsidised NH and C&A places from 2009-10 to 2011-12 was as follows –

As at the end of the year ^[Note1]	Number of applicants	
	NH	C&A
2009-10	6 259	19 556
2010-11	6 409	20 342
2011-12 (as at 31 January 2012)	6 518	21 238

^[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

The average waiting time for admission to subsidised C&A and NH places from 2009-10 to 2011-12 was as follows –

As at the end of the year ^[Note1]	Average waiting time ^[Note2] (in months)		
	C&A place in subvented/contract home	C&A place under EBPS	NH place
2009-10	31	10	42
2010-11	32	8	39
2011-12 (as at 31 January 2012)	34	8	35

^[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

^[Note 2] Average waiting time for admitted cases in the three months before the end of the year. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

The number of elders who passed away while waitlisting for subsidised residential care services in the past three years was as follows –

Year	Number of elders passed away while waitlisting for subsidised residential care services	
	C&A place	NH place
2009	2 716	1 822
2010	2 971	1 823
2011	3 189	1 958

The waiting time for subsidised residential care services and subsidised community care services is affected by a number of factors e.g. the special preference of applicants and the turn-over rates of services etc. It is difficult to estimate the waiting time and to estimate the required additional provision to clear the waiting list.

SWD has no statistics on the number of applicants and waiting time for elderly care services provided by private organisations.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) stated that it would “strengthen the care for demented elders in day care centres/units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs)” and “strengthen the care for the infirm and demented elders in residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs).” Please provide the information on the staffing establishment, amount of provision, number of beneficiaries, manpower ratio of professional carers to beneficiaries, waiting time, priorities and details of the services.
- (b) Whether SWD has any plan to render support (such as counselling, emotional support, referral services, etc.) to carers of dementia patients?
- (c) Whether SWD has any plan to strengthen public education so as to enhance public awareness of dementia?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

- Reply : (a) To enhance the support for demented elders in subsidised RCHEs and DEs/DCUs, an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS). The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million. It is estimated that DS will be allocated to a total of about 270 RCHEs and about 60 DEs/DCUs for about 5 000 beneficiaries.

The breakdown of the additional allocation of DS is as follows –

Type of service units	Additional allocation (\$ million)
Subvented RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)	127.5
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	9.7

SWD will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in EBPS and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

With the allocation of DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary.

- (b) Support services to carers of elders, including carers of demented patients are provided by various types of residential care service units as well as community care and support service units for the elderly. These include RCHEs, DEs/DCUs, elderly centres and home care service teams, etc. Services provided are day and overnight respite services, the provision of information, training and counselling services, assistance in forming carers' mutual help groups, setting up resource centres and demonstration and loan of rehabilitation equipment, etc.

Since October 2007, the District-based Scheme on Carer Training (the Scheme) has been launched in elderly centres to organise carer training programmes to enhance carers' capability in taking care of the elders. There have been 119 elderly centres participated in the Scheme and over 8 400 carers have been trained up.

Furthermore, in addition to those currently provided in all subvented homes and contract homes, the Administration plans to make use of the casual vacancies of bought places in private residential care homes under EBPS to provide more respite places for elders residing in the community with effect from 1 March 2012.

- (c) The Administration has endeavoured to raise the awareness and understanding of the public towards dementia. The Department of Health has been using various channels to disseminate information on dementia to the public, including mass media, web pages, books and different types of publicity materials such as leaflets and VCDs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)292

Question Serial No.

2330

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out the number of applicants waitlisting for the following residential care facilities and their average waiting time –

- (a) halfway houses for discharged mental patients
- (b) long stay care homes for discharged mental patients
- (c) mentally handicapped integrated vocational training centres
- (d) moderately mentally handicapped hostels
- (e) severely mentally handicapped hostels
- (f) severely physically handicapped hostels
- (g) care-and-attention homes for the severely disabled
- (h) care-and-attention homes for the aged blind
- (i) sheltered workshops

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : The requested information is as follows –

Type of service	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2011)	Average waiting time in 2010-11 (in months)
HWH	697	8.2
LSCH	1 174	38.2
IVTC(Res) ^[Note]	N.A.	N.A.
HMMH	1 365	80.4
HSMH	2 015	73.2

Type of service	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2011)	Average waiting time in 2010-11 (in months)
HSPH	396	38.6
C&A/SD	369	39.6
C&A/AB	90	4.0
SW	2 457	16.9

[Note] The service may admit service users directly or through referral and hence the Social Welfare Department does not capture any statistics in this respect.

Legend:

HWH – halfway house
 LSCH – long stay care home
 IVTC(Res) – integrated vocational training centre (residential service)
 HMMH – hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons
 HSMH – hostel for severely mentally handicapped persons
 HSPH – hostel for severely physically handicapped persons
 C&A/SD – care-and-attention home for severely disabled persons
 C&A/AB – care-and-attention home for the aged blind
 SW – sheltered workshop

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated number of social workers to be employed for handling cases after the setting up of three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs)? Will the new staffing establishment bring about any impact on the waiting time?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : The manpower provision of the three new IFSCs will be arranged with reference to the service needs and characteristics of their respective localities. For IFSCs operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the NGOs concerned have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs. Social workers of IFSCs will assess the welfare needs of individuals or families who approach IFSCs for services and provide timely and appropriate assistance to them.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide in table form the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients and the amount involved with breakdowns by the following categories in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 –

- (a) nature of cases
- (b) number of household members
- (c) age group
- (d) income level
- (e) duration of stay on CSSA
- (f) type of accommodation (e.g. public housing estate, private housing)
- (g) rent paid
- (h) District Council district

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : (a) (i) The numbers of CSSA recipients by case nature in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Note 1] –

Case nature	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Old age	197 980	197 397	196 421
Permanent disability	26 590	26 405	25 806
Ill health	43 762	43 112	41 823
Single parent	88 559	84 172	79 602
Low-earnings	51 893	47 413	40 109
Unemployment	59 501	52 869	46 798
Others	10 882	11 196	10 748
Total	479 167	462 564	441 307

(a) (ii) CSSA expenditures by case nature in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Case nature	CSSA expenditure ^[Note 2] (\$ million)		
	2009-10 (Actual)	2010-11 (Actual)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)
Old age	9,542	9,477	10,115
Permanent disability	1,177	1,168	1,312
Ill health	1,785	1,754	1,959
Single parent	3,111	2,942	3,059
Low-earnings	1,163	1,069	1,039
Unemployment	1,841	1,660	1,631
Others	408	423	463
Total	19,028	18,493	19,578

(b) The numbers of CSSA recipients by number of eligible members in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 3] _

Number of eligible members	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1	156 057	156 825	156 047
2	116 750	117 282	114 818
3	92 625	88 821	82 347
4	67 644	60 624	54 020
5	31 205	26 460	23 055
6 or above	14 886	12 552	11 020
Total	479 167	462 564	441 307

(c) The numbers of CSSA recipients by age group in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 3] _

Age group	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
0 – 14	86 995	80 934	74 525
15 – 59	205 025	194 143	180 141
60 or above	187 147	187 487	186 641
Total	479 167	462 564	441 307

(d) The numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings by range of such earnings in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 3] _

Employment earnings	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	6 074	6 181	5 790
\$1,000 – less than \$2,000	5 243	5 169	4 399
\$2,000 – less than \$3,000	5 608	5 290	3 485
\$3,000 – less than \$4,000	5 141	5 082	5 439
\$4,000 – less than \$5,000	4 348	4 059	3 742
\$5,000 – less than \$6,000	4 360	3 819	2 511

Employment earnings	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
\$6,000 – less than \$7,000	3 530	3 299	2 884
\$7,000 – less than \$8,000	1 946	2 018	2 101
\$8,000 – less than \$9,000	978	1 047	1 471
\$9,000 – less than \$10,000	392	451	746
\$10,000 or above	494	476	532
Total	38 114	36 891	33 100

(e) The numbers of CSSA recipients by duration of stay on CSSA in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 3] _

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end o f January 2012)
1 or less	46 783	40 536	35 477
More than 1 - 2	40 538	40 352	35 349
More than 2 - 3	31 055	34 599	36 232
More than 3 - 4	32 237	27 515	27 679
More than 4 - 5	33 032	28 801	25 086
More than 5	295 522	290 761	281 484
Total	479 167	462 564	441 307

(f) The numbers of CSSA recipients by type of accommodation in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 3] _

Type of accommodation	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end o f January 2012)
Public housing estate ^[Note 4]	332 096	318 374	302 637
Private housing	87 508	84 024	78 754
Institution	53 188	53 993	54 037
Others ^[Note 5]	6 375	6 173	5 879
Total	479 167	462 564	441 307

(g) The numbers of CSSA cases living in public and private housing by range of actual rent in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 3] _

Actual rent	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$500	16 421	14 764	14 478
\$500 – less than \$1,000	84 180	81 448	81 609
\$1,000 – less than \$1,500	46 756	45 559	43 298
\$1,500 – less than \$2,000	25 288	25 753	24 149
\$2,000 – less than \$2,500	10 280	11 165	9 704
\$2,500 – less than \$3,000	6 405	6 676	6 033
\$3,000 – less than \$3,500	3 633	4 056	3 924
\$3,500 – less than \$4,000	2 640	2 637	2 642
\$4,000 – less than \$4,500	1 621	1 587	1 549
\$4,500 – less than \$5,000	918	956	990
\$5,000 or above	1 187	1 442	1 670
Total	199 329	196 043	190 046

(h) The numbers of CSSA recipients by geographical district in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Notes 1 & 3] _

Geographical district ^[Note 6]	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Central & Western	4 654	4 501	4 168
Eastern	22 279	22 012	21 019
Islands	10 406	9 877	9 045
Kowloon City	19 538	18 652	17 919
Kwai Tsing	49 669	47 587	45 229

Geographical district ^[Note 6]	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Kwun Tong	64 445	63 850	62 386
North	24 994	24 615	23 511
Sai Kung	18 273	16 908	15 936
Sha Tin	32 319	31 091	29 945
Sham Shui Po	39 752	38 432	36 630
Southern	13 077	12 748	12 198
Tai Po	16 117	15 442	14 991
Tsuen Wan	13 855	13 383	12 714
Tuen Mun	35 482	34 050	32 549
Wan Chai	2 505	2 363	2 238
Wong Tai Sin	38 372	37 005	35 553
Yau Tsim Mong	15 379	14 621	13 822
Yuen Long	55 206	52 761	49 004
Total ^[Note 7]	476 322	459 898	438 857

[Note 1] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

[Note 2] The expenditure included the payment of one additional month of standard rate payment. Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding effect.

[Note 3] CSSA expenditures with breakdown by the parameters in items (b) to (h) are not readily available.

[Note 4] Including public housing estates under the Housing Authority and the Housing Society.

[Note 5] Including street sleeping, government quarters, men's apartment, boarding school, correctional or penal institution, boat, private quarters, other unclassified types of accommodation and cases of Portable CSSA Scheme with recipients living in Guangdong or Fujian.

[Note 6] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 7] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)295

Question Serial No.

2579

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the progress of setting up integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) in the 18 districts? What is the estimated schedule for all ICCMWs to have permanent accommodation? How many people are benefiting from the services at present? What are the number of people on the waiting lists and the average waiting time? What are the estimated additional manpower to be recruited in 2012-13 and the average waiting time to be shortened?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) set up the ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory in October 2010 to provide one-stop and district-based community support services for ex-mentally ill persons, persons with suspected mental health problems, and their family/carers as well as local residents. As at the end of December 2011, they had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised by the ICCMWs.

SWD has been proactively identifying suitable sites for use by ICCMWs. As at the end of January 2012, 13 ICCMWs had secured permanent accommodation while two others had identified permanent sites pending local consultation. SWD will continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments in identifying suitable premises in new development or redevelopment projects, vacant government properties, school premises and public housing units, etc. SWD will also consider funding the rental expenses incurred for setting up temporary accommodation for use as ICCMWs at suitable commercial premises, and approval has already been given to four such applications.

Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management Programme of the Hospital Authority

for patients with severe mental illness and provide service for more people in need. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs. There is no waiting list for the service of ICCMWs. The applicants may access the services through self-application or referrals by doctors, social workers, allied health workers or government departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)296

Question Serial No.

2994

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What were the expenditures on Old Age Allowance (OAA) incurred by the Administration and the numbers of OAA recipients in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12? What are the estimated expenditure on OAA incurred by the Administration and the estimated number of OAA recipients in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : The average numbers of OAA recipients per month and OAA expenditures in 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively were as follows –

	Average number of OAA recipients per month	OAA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 1]
2009-10	484 376	6,320
2010-11	494 734	6,449

The estimated average numbers of OAA recipients per month and OAA expenditures in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as follows –

	Estimated average number of OAA recipients per month	OAA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note 2]
2011-12	508 900	6,939
2012-13	539 000	7,605

[Note 1] The expenditure includes the payment of one additional month of the allowance in each of the years.

[Note 2] The 2011-12 and 2012-13 expenditures include the payment of one additional month of the allowance in each year. For 2012-13, the provision of the additional allowance is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What were the outcomes of the “Employment Assistance Scheme” in the past? In 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, how many Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients benefiting from the projects have left the CSSA net? In what ways will the Department collaborate with other government departments such as the Labour Department and the business sector to enhance the projects?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has commissioned non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme (IEAS), the Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP) and the New Dawn (ND) Project to encourage and assist employable CSSA recipients to become self-reliant and integrate into the community. From the commencement of these programmes^[Note] up to the end of December 2011, the numbers of participants of IEAS and ND Project who had secured employment were 21 589 and 7 030 respectively, and the number of participants of My STEP who had secured employment or returned to mainstream schooling was 964.

^[Note] IEAS, My STEP and ND Project have commenced operation since October 2008, October 2006 and April 2006 respectively.

The numbers of CSSA recipients who had participated in the IEAS, My STEP and the ND Project and left the CSSA net in the past three years from 2009-10 to 2011-12 were as follows –

Employment assistance project	Number of CSSA recipients who had left the CSSA net from 2009-10 to 2011-12 (up to the end of December 2011)
IEAS	7 562
My STEP	138
ND Project	342

Apart from referring participants to the Labour Department for employment assistance services or to the Employees Retraining Board for training/retraining services, NGOs also provide participants with job matching and job-attachment services through their employer network, including employers in the business sector.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Although it is stated in the Budget that there is an increased requirement for social security, the 2012-13 estimate under Programme (2) is only increased by 0.1% as compared with 2011-12 revised estimate, and is the least increase among all Programmes under this Head. The explanation provided by the Department is that the increase in provision is partly offset by the reduction in the non-recurrent cash flow requirement for additional one-off payments to Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and Social Security Allowance (SSA) recipients.

Subhead 700 General non-recurrent is reduced substantially as compared with that of last year. As the additional one-off payments are vital to CSSA and SSA recipients, would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the reasons behind such substantial reduction in the expenditure of the relevant items; and
- (b) the details of the one-off payments, with breakdown by item, expenditure and the extent of reduction?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply (a) The reason for the reduced provision under Subhead 700 General non-recurrent of the 2012-13 estimate is that Subhead 700 of the 2011-12 revised estimate had included an amount of \$1.8 billion, being the provision of extra payment to CSSA, Old Age Allowance (OAA) and Disability Allowance (DA) recipients in 2011-12, whereas the extra payment announced in the 2012-13 Budget Speech (see details in part (b) below) has not yet been reflected in the 2012-13 estimate of the Subhead 700. Provision for this extra payment, however, has been set aside under the Additional commitments subhead in Head 106.

- (b) The one-off payment for social security recipients announced in the 2012-13 Budget Speech comprises an extra allowance to CSSA recipients, equal to one month of the CSSA standard rate; and an extra allowance to OAA and DA recipients, equal to one month of the allowances. Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee, the Social Welfare Department aims to implement the proposal around mid-2012. The estimated total expenditure of this proposal is \$2.079 billion, which is rounded up to \$2.1 billion in the Budget Speech. It consists of \$1,257 million for CSSA, \$587 million for OAA and \$235 million for DA. This represents an increase of about \$0.3 billion in the provision of extra payment as compared with 2011-12 revised estimate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that under this Programme that the Social Welfare Department will help needy elders who lived in dilapidated homes improve their home conditions. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the details of the scheme, including its implementation date, eligibility criteria, funding mechanism; whether its targets are confined to tenants or owner-occupiers; and whether it will only apply to certain types of buildings (such as private buildings, public housing estates or other types of subsidised housing)?
- (b) What are the staffing establishment and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2008-09, a one-off funding of \$200 million was earmarked to launch the five-year Home Environment Improvement Scheme for the Elderly (the Scheme) to help needy elderly people improve their home environment. The Scheme targets at elders (aged 60 or above) without family support, who live in dilapidated homes with poor fittings and lack financial means to improve their home conditions. Elders will be provided with minor home maintenance and improvement services as well as the necessary fittings after an assessment on their financial situation and living environment. The amount of subsidy for each eligible elderly household will be subject to a ceiling of \$5,000 within the five-year period, regardless of the type of housing units which the elders occupy and their status as tenants or owner-occupiers.

District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs), having established networks in respective districts and extensive experience in serving the elders, are the delivery agencies. About \$4 million from the Scheme is allocated to DECCs per annum as operating expenses under the Lump Sum Grant. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, operators of DECCs have the flexibility in deploying subvention to arrange suitable staffing to implement the Scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the integrated home care services (IHCS) under the Indicators of this Programme, would the Administration please inform this Committee –

- (a) What are the numbers of service users of IHCS for both frail and ordinary cases in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively and the average waiting time for service in each district?
- (b) Why did the Administration estimate that the cost per case served per month will only increase by \$5 from \$1,366 to \$1,371 in 2012-13 despite continuous inflation in the coming year?
- (c) Whether the Administration intends to let the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) operating IHCS bear the cost of inflation? If yes, what measures will be taken to ensure that the service quality can be maintained?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) The numbers of service users of IHCS for both frail and ordinary cases in 2010-11 and 2011-12 were as follows –

	2010-11	2011-12
No. of service users of IHCS for frail cases	1 342	1 335 (April 2011 to the end of January 2012)
No. of service users of IHCS for ordinary cases	28 323	24 054 (April to the end of September 2011)

The frail elders who had gone through the standardised care need assessment could waitlist for either IHCS for frail cases and/or the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services. As at the end of December 2011, the average waiting time was about three months. The breakdown of waiting time by district is not available. We do not keep statistics on the waiting time for IHCS for ordinary cases.

- (b) The cost per place per month for IHCS comprises subventions for Personal Emolument (PE) and Other Charges (OC). The subvention for the 2012-13 estimate is based on the same level of staff cost as in the 2011-12 revised estimate while costs other than staff cost have been adjusted according to the Composite Consumer Price Index. Since other costs form a relatively small part of the unit cost, the increase in the unit cost per month for IHCS is not significant. The staff cost in 2012-13 may be further adjusted after the 2012-13 civil service pay adjustment, which will then be reflected in the unit cost in the 2012-13 revised estimate.
- (c) The operating expenses of IHCS are subsumed under OC of the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) allocations to NGOs. Under the LSG subvention system, OC is adjusted annually in line with the price movement based on the government-wide price adjustment factor. With effect from 1 April 2012, OC will be adjusted annually in line with the movement in the Composite Consumer Price Index. NGOs have the flexibility to deploy the subvention allocations to meet operating expenses.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)301

Question Serial No.

1014

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out, by category of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases, the median duration of stay of recipients on CSSA in 2009, 2010 and 2011 –

Category	2009	2010	2011
Old age			
Permanent disability			
Ill health			
Single parent			
Low-earnings			
Unemployment			
Others			
Overall			

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The median durations of stay on CSSA by case nature in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Case nature	Median duration of stay on CSSA (in years)		
	2009-10 (as at the end of March 2010)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Old age	8.0	8.4	8.8
Permanent disability	8.2	8.7	9.1
Ill health	5.9	6.1	6.3
Single parent	6.1	6.3	6.5

Case nature	Median duration of stay on CSSA (in years)		
	2009-10 (as at the end of March 2010)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Low-earnings	6.6	7.2	7.7
Unemployment	4.1	4.5	4.8
Others	2.8	3.1	3.1
Overall	7.0	7.5	7.8

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : A number of suicide or homicide cases happened in 2011-12 in which mental patients were involved. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What were the enrolment rates of halfway houses (HWHs) and long stay care homes (LSCHs) during the period 2008 to 2012?
- (b) Did the patients need to wait for the services during the period 2008 to 2012? If yes, how long did they have to wait?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The requested information is as follows –

Year ^[Note 1]	Average Enrolment Rate ^[Note 2]	Average waiting time ^[Note 1] (in months)	
		HWH	LSCH
2008-09	98%	5.6	22.9
2009-10	98%	6.2	31.8
2010-11	95%	8.2	38.2

^[Note 1] The figure for 2011-12 is not yet available as the enrolment rate and waiting time are calculated on a yearly basis from 1 April to 31 March of the following year.

[Note 2] A short lead time is required to arrange for the successful applicant to fill the vacancy arises, e.g. applicant to confirm acceptance of offer and date of moving in, etc. Hence, the enrolment rate would not be 100% under a snapshot.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)303

Question Serial No.

1016

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the following information regarding the Support for Self-reliance (SFS) Scheme in 2011-12 –

- (a) the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients who have joined the scheme;
- (b) the distribution of their age and gender;
- (c) the numbers of recipients who have secured full-time and part-time employment respectively, the categories of employment secured by them and their median wages;
- (d) the number of recipients who have left the CSSA net; and
- (e) the average amount of disregarded earnings (DE) per month.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2011-12, the total number of participants newly enrolled in SFS Scheme^[Note 1] (up to the end of December 2011) was 17 073. Among them, 4 209 had secured full-time employment^[Note 2] and 953 had left the CSSA net. As at the end of January 2012, the average monthly DE of CSSA recipients who benefited from monthly DE was \$1,797. We are unable to provide information on their age, gender, the nature of job secured and the median employment income as the computer systems concerned do not keep such information.

[Note 1] Including the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme and Special Training and Enhancement Programme.

[Note 2] The SFS Scheme aims to encourage and assist the unemployed able-bodied CSSA recipients aged 15 to 59 to secure full-time employment with working hours no less than 120 per month. We have no record on the number of participants who had secured part-time employment.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What specific measures do the Administration have in place to enhance its direct support for victims of domestic violence and vulnerable families? Please provide details of such measures. Which of them are new measures? What are the manpower and expenditures involved? What is the implementation timetable?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs)/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Service Units, Clinical Psychology Units, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc. Three new IFSCs will be set up in 2012-13 to strengthen support services to victims of domestic violence and families in need. In 2012-13, the total estimated allocation for family and child welfare services is \$2,121.3 million.

SWD will from time to time review the need to enhance these existing services to strengthen the support for victims of domestic violence and families in need.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What specific plan does the Administration have to address the long-term shortage of nurses in the welfare sector?
- (b) What are the number of applicants for each class of the Enrolled Nurse (EN) Training Programme for the welfare sector and the number of graduates who have become nurses?
- (c) Whether the Administration has any plan to increase the number of places of the EN Training Programme for the welfare sector? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) To alleviate the shortage of nurses in the welfare sector, the Social Welfare Department has collaborated with the Hospital Authority to organise the two-year EN Training Programme for the welfare sector since 2006. Ten training classes has been organised so far, providing a total of 1 150 training places. The training programme is fully subsidised by the Government. The trainees are required to sign an undertaking to work in the welfare sector for two consecutive years upon graduation.
 - (b) The numbers of applicants and graduates for each class of the EN Training Programme for the welfare sector are as follows –

	1 st class	2 nd class	3 rd class	4 th class	5 th & 6 th classes ^[Note]	7 th & 8 th classes ^[Note]	9 th & 10 th classes ^[Note]
Number of applicants	2 389	1 897	2 542	2 328	5 438	4 578	4 866
Number of graduates	96	107	97	146	Not applicable as the trainees are still receiving training		

[Note] Applications for the two classes were conducted together.

About 90% of the graduates of the first three classes are still working in the welfare sector. SWD is following up the employment situation of the graduates of the fourth class.

- (c) Two more classes of the EN Training Programme will be organised in 2012-13. Altogether, these 12 classes will provide a total of about 1 500 training places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding monitoring and enhancing the service quality of private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the existing manpower for conducting surprise inspections and the average number of inspections carried out each year?
- (b) How many non-compliant private RCHEs were prosecuted by the Administration over the past five years?
- (c) Whether there is any plan to recruit additional staff to strengthen the inspection of RCHEs? If yes, please set out the details and the estimated expenditure involved. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) A team of 38 staff of the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (LORCHE) under the Social Welfare Department conducts surprise inspections to licensed RCHEs to ensure service quality and compliance of statutory requirements. The average number of inspections each year is about 5 000.
 - (b) In the past five years (i.e. 2007–2011), 34 private RCHEs were prosecuted.

- (c) The Administration has already enhanced the manpower of LORCHE by the creation of three additional inspector posts in 2011-12 at an annual recurrent expenditure of \$0.7 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of fraud cases on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 with breakdown on –

Means/ Financial year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
By means of concealing or false claim of income (number of cases)			
By means of concealing or false claim of total assets (number of cases)			
By means of fraudulent claim for rent (number of cases)			
By means of concealing information other than the above (e.g. imprisonment, absence from Hong Kong or household conditions, etc.) (number of cases)			
Total number of established fraud cases on CSSA			
Percentage of established fraud cases over the total number of active CSSA cases (%)			
Amount of overpayment involved (\$ million)			

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The numbers of fraud cases on CSSA in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively with breakdown by types were as follows –

By types of fraud cases established	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Concealing or false claim of income	392	479	431
Concealing or false claim of total assets	253	335	322
Fraudulent claim for rent	42	65	88
Concealing information other than the above (e.g. imprisonment, absence from Hong Kong or household conditions, etc.)	123	71	173
Total number of established fraud cases	810	950	1 014
Percentage of established fraud cases over the total number of active cases (%)	0.28	0.33	0.36
Amount of overpayment involved (\$ million)	49.7	58.9	48.6

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)308

Question Serial No.

1022

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out the number of households which are currently on the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) living in all public housing estates, the number as a percentage of the total number of households in the public housing estates, and the number of households on CSSA in each public housing estate by categories (including old age, permanent disability, ill health, single parent, low-earnings, unemployment, others and their total) –

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The numbers of households on CSSA by case nature and public housing estate, and as percentage to the total number of households in each of the public housing estates, as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total	Percentage to total number of households
Ap Lei Chau	258	71	51	106	37	33	23	579	13%
Bo Shek Mansion	58	1	1	6	3	-	-	69	26%
Broadview Garden	13	3	3	4	4	-	-	27	6%
Butterfly	789	66	111	206	27	110	27	1 336	25%
Chai Wan	267	12	23	45	13	25	5	390	25%
Chak On	348	8	41	74	8	37	4	520	30%

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total	Percentage to total number of households
Cheung Ching	332	37	50	80	46	69	17	631	13%
Cheung Fat	255	28	36	40	17	32	4	412	31%
Cheung Hang	343	42	51	60	30	64	10	600	14%
Cheung Hong	899	82	84	172	51	113	23	1 424	18%
Cheung Kwai	27	3	8	8	9	11	-	66	15%
Cheung On	307	45	51	44	16	41	9	513	35%
Cheung Shan	103	11	11	17	18	8	2	170	11%
Cheung Wah	445	26	77	101	40	61	13	763	35%
Cheung Wang	356	67	103	165	103	141	16	951	22%
Ching Ho	851	58	175	548	144	247	53	2 076	29%
Cho Yiu Chuen	190	7	8	11	14	17	1	248	10%
Choi Fai	89	7	26	19	17	24	2	184	14%
Choi Fook	362	21	36	158	47	86	25	735	22%
Choi Ha	158	14	15	17	9	22	-	235	38%
Choi Hung	904	53	132	231	77	100	15	1 512	21%
Choi Ming Court	272	50	85	100	75	71	9	662	24%
Choi Tak	553	22	48	242	46	82	37	1 030	19%
Choi Wan (I)	411	46	95	138	56	79	20	845	15%
Choi Wan (II)	235	9	43	85	30	36	8	446	15%
Choi Ying	491	23	68	222	42	124	15	985	25%
Choi Yuen	840	54	106	182	28	105	26	1 341	27%
Chuk Yuen (North)	340	36	77	58	25	63	16	615	43%
Chuk Yuen (South)	883	62	127	281	65	107	15	1 540	26%
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	102	5	3	8	3	14	-	135	14%
Chun Shek	274	19	45	53	20	27	6	444	21%
Chung On	259	60	80	94	39	68	28	628	23%
Clague Garden Estate	64	-	1	6	2	4	-	77	15%
Easeful Court	17	4	8	12	12	11	2	66	13%
Fortune	557	29	71	41	33	63	7	801	39%
Fu Cheong	1 360	64	194	188	128	165	12	2 111	36%
Fu Heng	419	49	108	79	22	73	4	754	38%
Fu Shan	180	15	25	41	14	20	2	297	19%
Fu Shin	448	38	93	137	25	60	14	815	31%
Fu Tai	393	95	99	171	113	162	17	1 050	21%
Fu Tung	81	14	20	46	15	15	2	193	12%
Fuk Loi	365	24	47	72	16	27	10	561	18%
Fung Tak	472	30	87	45	19	54	8	715	52%
Fung Wah	89	12	14	9	5	11	4	144	36%
Grandeur Terrace	141	28	103	326	136	184	19	937	23%

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total	Percentage to total number of households
Hau Tak	364	41	77	87	42	70	5	686	17%
Healthy Village	106	5	10	12	9	2	2	146	13%
Heng On	223	13	58	61	25	30	19	429	42%
High Prosperity Terrace	9	1	8	22	21	9	1	71	9%
Hin Keng	199	26	46	43	26	25	12	377	45%
Hin Yiu	94	13	28	52	7	16	5	215	27%
Hing Man	135	25	24	56	30	28	6	304	16%
Hing Tin	85	8	21	30	24	14	3	185	36%
Hing Tung	193	13	33	47	11	16	2	315	15%
Hing Wah (I)	264	60	46	49	36	39	3	497	22%
Hing Wah (II)	528	54	50	113	22	45	8	820	24%
Ho Man Tin	623	60	113	104	69	68	20	1 057	23%
Hoi Fu Court	594	24	63	94	55	80	8	918	33%
Hoi Lai	292	35	82	210	145	147	15	926	19%
Hong Tung	212	2	3	5	1	3	-	226	50%
Hung Hom	354	12	34	40	21	37	3	501	29%
Jat Min Chuen	357	20	39	29	17	28	5	495	14%
Ka Fuk	252	25	33	43	16	47	5	421	22%
Ka Wai Chuen	245	6	23	17	14	18	-	323	20%
Kai Tin	334	32	53	47	24	40	4	534	24%
Kai Yip	794	38	66	132	19	53	11	1 113	27%
Kam Peng	33	2	3	4	2	7	-	51	21%
Kin Ming	395	96	206	350	152	209	15	1 423	20%
Kin Sang	98	12	32	27	11	19	3	202	32%
King Lam	447	62	81	59	23	65	4	741	42%
Ko Cheung Court	46	9	33	110	47	40	7	292	16%
Ko Yee	199	10	13	28	13	18	2	283	25%
Kwai Chung	1 216	216	305	648	262	425	65	3 137	23%
Kwai Fong	641	102	125	113	87	111	17	1 196	19%
Kwai Hing	97	9	13	15	5	10	3	152	42%
Kwai Luen	125	10	19	59	16	37	16	282	22%
Kwai Shing (East)	739	92	117	146	94	154	18	1 360	22%
Kwai Shing (West)	465	44	69	121	36	89	15	839	16%
Kwong Fuk	537	57	127	189	58	84	30	1 082	18%
Kwong Tin	165	18	40	48	20	32	10	333	15%
Kwong Yuen	340	69	82	65	22	49	29	656	44%
Kwun Lung Lau	106	7	11	12	14	21	2	173	11%
Kwun Tong Garden Estate	514	25	63	50	38	58	4	752	16%
Lai King	439	36	49	85	46	63	12	730	18%

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total	Percentage to total number of households
Lai Kok	506	40	62	130	19	63	14	834	30%
Lai On	181	23	24	25	11	18	1	283	21%
Lai Tak Tsuen	134	19	21	12	11	12	-	209	8%
Lai Yiu	278	27	31	47	40	42	9	474	17%
Lakeside Garden	18	2	5	2	2	1	-	30	13%
Lam Tin	403	11	49	125	44	52	11	695	23%
Lee On	298	53	134	107	35	61	13	701	19%
Lei Cheng Uk	349	34	42	84	27	85	7	628	46%
Lei Muk Shue	843	110	188	337	169	197	40	1 884	18%
Lei Tung	442	59	80	98	25	53	24	781	29%
Lei Yue Mun	424	32	78	143	63	87	16	843	27%
Lek Yuen	317	44	50	101	20	57	21	610	19%
Leung King	548	64	111	116	29	118	27	1 013	32%
Lok Fu	411	63	93	105	38	71	8	789	22%
Lok Man Sun Chuen	315	23	31	28	17	53	5	472	13%
Lok Wah (North)	159	24	40	55	31	35	6	350	12%
Lok Wah (South)	1 483	53	104	181	24	95	15	1 955	30%
Long Bin IH	32	9	16	10	-	67	6	140	26%
Long Ping	569	63	117	275	83	140	28	1 275	28%
Lower Wong Tai Sin (I)	537	57	94	146	47	88	14	983	55%
Lower Wong Tai Sin (II)	485	62	84	162	52	110	19	974	15%
Lung Hang	236	21	71	109	64	65	46	612	14%
Lung Tin	69	13	8	7	2	12	-	111	30%
Ma Hang	44	4	13	17	8	9	2	97	11%
Ma Tau Wai	223	22	39	97	14	29	4	428	21%
Mei Lam	413	36	84	137	32	57	19	778	19%
Mei Tin	394	59	153	341	112	177	48	1 284	24%
Mei Tung	248	9	30	54	13	26	11	391	28%
Ming Tak	172	18	24	36	19	26	3	298	20%
Ming Wah Dai Ha	167	13	19	10	9	20	-	238	10%
Model Housing	49	9	9	14	14	8	3	106	16%
Moon Lok Dai Ha	96	4	11	9	5	9	1	135	15%
Nam Cheong	172	17	33	30	11	32	2	297	38%
Nam Shan	348	21	61	114	18	46	16	624	24%
Nga Ning Court	16	1	4	17	8	13	3	62	15%
Ngan Wan	32	4	7	13	4	7	-	67	16%
Oi Man	370	52	108	175	53	91	10	859	14%
Oi Tung	781	82	90	142	55	45	9	1 204	31%
On Tin	23	3	9	46	34	27	5	147	20%

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total	Percentage to total number of households
On Ting	646	78	109	140	29	94	20	1 116	22%
On Yam	498	61	69	65	67	80	21	861	17%
Pak Tin	1 417	59	223	266	126	191	37	2 319	28%
Ping Shek	411	35	51	71	27	53	4	652	14%
Ping Tin	875	65	134	161	71	112	21	1 439	27%
Po Lam	310	45	58	120	41	49	6	629	30%
Po Tat	1 045	68	179	275	188	219	28	2 002	27%
Po Tin	1 092	140	367	123	15	469	26	2 232	27%
Pok Hong	296	14	72	86	29	40	12	549	42%
Prosperous Garden	100	1	3	2	2	2	1	111	17%
Sai Wan	27	1	12	5	6	5	2	58	9%
Sam Shing	142	20	20	57	12	25	9	285	16%
Sau Mau Ping (South)	426	19	76	189	61	102	22	895	23%
Sau Mau Ping	1 913	132	279	356	234	280	54	3 248	27%
Sha Kok	819	81	141	186	35	93	71	1 426	23%
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	41	5	10	5	8	9	3	81	12%
Shan King	822	86	150	245	52	154	39	1 548	24%
Shatin Pass	97	5	17	41	7	18	2	187	19%
Shek Kip Mei	933	44	151	167	71	104	24	1 494	31%
Shek Lei (I)	670	98	83	147	59	80	22	1 159	24%
Shek Lei (II)	955	112	162	267	169	256	53	1 974	24%
Shek Mun	109	10	48	112	16	60	22	377	19%
Shek Pai Wan	477	67	80	71	76	49	19	839	16%
Shek Wai Kok	600	45	98	168	48	67	23	1 049	17%
Shek Yam (East)	355	41	38	36	22	50	6	548	21%
Shek Yam	391	52	51	70	56	58	5	683	29%
Sheung Lok	132	9	2	10	-	8	1	162	50%
Sheung Tak	546	62	124	162	128	135	18	1 175	21%
Shin Ming	137	22	33	85	17	36	12	342	20%
Shui Pin Wai	490	23	50	86	15	44	9	717	30%
Shun Lee	458	30	47	104	35	77	8	759	17%
Shun On	458	28	46	74	33	62	10	711	24%
Shun Tin	847	60	121	159	68	120	20	1 395	20%
Siu Sai Wan	313	84	84	126	61	68	13	749	12%
So Uk	93	7	18	14	14	25	1	172	17%
Sun Chui	612	58	104	165	61	101	22	1 123	17%
Sun Tin Wai	256	30	47	92	34	34	14	507	15%
Tai Hang Tung	434	20	62	44	21	37	7	625	32%
Tai Hing	1 209	80	163	245	56	168	31	1 952	23%

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total	Percentage to total number of households
Tai Ping	34	6	14	19	4	15	1	93	27%
Tai Wo	586	32	103	79	22	52	19	893	41%
Tai Wo Hau	788	99	130	169	68	131	26	1 411	19%
Tai Yuen	359	44	139	113	62	76	16	809	17%
Tak Tin	732	32	106	74	29	64	14	1 051	49%
Tin Chak	445	54	132	207	73	165	20	1 096	28%
Tin Ching	630	60	160	432	98	236	67	1 683	27%
Tin Heng	225	43	152	383	216	261	20	1 300	23%
Tin King	93	15	27	63	15	31	11	255	24%
Tin Ping	218	31	52	79	22	45	8	455	35%
Tin Shui	562	65	131	245	90	139	30	1 262	16%
Tin Tsz	510	52	93	105	31	79	16	886	27%
Tin Wah	503	54	113	132	59	108	16	985	27%
Tin Wan	417	58	80	53	30	35	17	690	22%
Tin Yan	701	94	200	353	52	269	18	1 687	31%
Tin Yat	131	34	62	222	127	130	13	719	22%
Tin Yiu	612	61	190	283	87	192	38	1 463	17%
Tin Yuet	472	47	128	200	126	182	14	1 169	29%
Tsing Yi	177	20	25	32	9	27	3	293	36%
Tsui Lam	155	22	48	101	31	31	4	392	22%
Tsui Lok	116	5	6	11	1	2	1	142	45%
Tsui Ping (South)	486	28	53	69	43	52	12	743	16%
Tsui Ping (North)	1 050	68	190	197	61	141	18	1 725	52%
Tsui Wan	128	30	15	28	5	16	3	225	35%
Tsz Ching	1 337	70	189	215	172	166	24	2 173	27%
Tsz Hong	123	12	38	114	90	60	7	444	22%
Tsz Lok	855	61	126	163	69	107	14	1 395	23%
Tsz Man	212	15	43	47	33	43	7	400	21%
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	11	-	6	2	3	-	2	24	10%
Tung Tau	963	67	105	127	39	121	14	1 436	46%
Un Chau	1 159	68	131	95	58	124	16	1 651	27%
Upper Ngau Tau Kok	1 381	76	160	100	58	152	14	1 941	30%
Upper Wong Tai Sin	810	79	102	126	76	103	20	1 316	28%
Verbena Heights	159	8	17	6	3	22	2	217	23%
Wah Fu	607	103	123	209	95	64	24	1 225	14%
Wah Kwai	295	31	36	28	21	22	2	435	39%
Wah Lai	100	19	35	45	35	33	8	275	19%
Wah Ming	397	44	87	99	31	76	12	746	39%
Wah Sum	168	28	51	47	19	31	1	345	23%

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total	Percentage to total number of households
Wan Hon	470	6	10	16	7	9	5	523	55%
Wan Tau Tong	201	34	27	33	7	17	1	320	45%
Wan Tsui	327	50	58	99	38	52	11	635	18%
Wang Tau Hom	413	68	72	127	53	91	24	848	15%
Wo Che	386	79	164	159	67	90	32	977	16%
Wo Lok	248	27	40	58	17	31	4	425	23%
Wu King	190	26	67	117	40	86	14	540	13%
Yan On	120	15	48	116	16	60	15	390	16%
Yat Tung	546	106	252	578	377	392	41	2 292	20%
Yau Lai	839	28	131	400	127	141	40	1 706	22%
Yau Oi	744	90	145	250	90	212	41	1 572	17%
Yau Tong	527	47	104	131	88	92	9	998	28%
Yiu On	180	30	74	62	12	32	13	403	33%
Yiu Tung	536	60	98	87	47	54	10	892	17%
Yue Kwong Chuen	53	8	10	7	2	7	2	89	9%
Yue Wan	210	35	31	82	27	32	8	425	20%
Yung Shing Court	231	23	52	48	47	65	5	471	28%
Total	88 424	8 463	15 828	24 066	9 836	16 076	2 950	165 643	23%

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)309

Question Serial No.

1023

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out, by category of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases, the current numbers of CSSA cases in each District Council Constituency.

Geographical district	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Total								

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases by case nature and by geographical district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central & Western	2 294	234	277	191	92	300	61	3 449
Eastern	8 591	1 170	1 042	1 391	561	871	287	13 913
Islands	1 747	228	396	819	464	618	197	4 469
Kowloon City	7 670	841	1 021	1 213	421	1 143	244	12 553
Kwai Tsing	14 906	2 281	2 194	2 982	1 497	2 417	551	26 828

Geographical district [Note 1]	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Kwun Tong	22 061	1 624	2 926	4 614	1 854	2 924	743	36 746
North	7 799	942	1 338	2 055	533	1 266	465	14 398
Sai Kung	4 284	871	950	1 237	592	795	368	9 097
Sha Tin	8 977	1 459	1 964	2 439	769	1 331	620	17 559
Sham Shui Po	13 759	1 078	2 493	2 419	969	3 358	605	24 681
Southern	5 075	1 182	725	665	327	340	210	8 524
Tai Po	5 943	509	975	1 083	295	623	253	9 681
Tsuen Wan	5 054	416	594	963	351	581	217	8 176
Tuen Mun	11 284	2 220	2 301	2 345	596	2 068	540	21 354
Wan Chai	1 273	79	131	98	38	251	94	1 964
Wong Tai Sin	13 010	1 146	1 859	2 603	1 083	1 733	415	21 849
Yau Tsim Mong	5 210	334	1 056	973	279	2 421	384	10 657
Yuen Long	12 607	1 770	2 831	4 613	1 436	3 478	760	27 495
Total [Note 2]	151 544	18 384	25 073	32 703	12 157	26 518	7 014	273 393

[Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)310

Question Serial No.

1024

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information on the numbers of recipients under the unemployed and low-earnings categories of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme with breakdowns by their gender, age distribution, duration of stay on CSSA, nature of jobs, their wages as well as residing districts in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) Statistics on CSSA unemployed recipients^[Note 1], with breakdown by selected profiles, in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Table 1 : CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by gender

Gender	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Male	18 679	16 328
Female	12 450	11 433
Total	31 129	27 761

Table 2 : CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by age group

Age group	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
15 – 19	1 600	1 151
20 – 29	2 281	1 899
30 – 39	3 683	3 168
40 – 49	9 026	8 167
50 – 59	14 539	13 376
Total	31 129	27 761

Table 3 : CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1 or less	4 414	3 447
More than 1 - 2	3 747	2 650
More than 2 - 3	2 878	2 880
More than 3 - 4	1 826	2 024
More than 4 - 5	1 772	1 489
More than 5	16 492	15 271
Total	31 129	27 761

Table 4 : CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by occupation

Occupation	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Cleaner	324	281
Clerk	37	30
Construction worker/ labourer/decoration worker	92	62
Delivery worker	260	218
Domestic helper/baby sitter	209	176
Driver	68	76
General worker/labourer (other than those of construction)	781	647
Salesperson	124	108
Waiter/waitress	129	118
Watchman/guard	45	20
Others	640	543
Jobless	28 420	25 482
Total	31 129	27 761

Table 5 : CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by employment earnings

Employment earnings	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
\$ 0	28 420	25 482
Less than \$1,685 ^[Note 1]	2 709	2 279
Total	31 129	27 761

Table 6 : CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by geographical district

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Central & Western	246	236
Eastern	1 238	1 070
Islands	693	593
Kowloon City	1 226	1 110
Kwai Tsing	2 908	2 449
Kwun Tong	3 772	3 465
North	1 637	1 434
Sai Kung	985	865
Sha Tin	1 836	1 693
Sham Shui Po	3 439	3 129
Southern	491	438
Tai Po	791	718
Tsuen Wan	662	541
Tuen Mun	2 294	1 966
Wan Chai	210	205
Wong Tai Sin	2 343	2 148
Yau Tsim Mong	2 082	1 905
Yuen Long	4 276	3 796
Total	31 129	27 761

- (b) Statistics on CSSA low-earnings recipients^[Note 3], with breakdown by selected profiles, in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Table 1 : CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by gender

Gender	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Male	10 359	8 762
Female	10 382	8 903
Total	20 741	17 665

Table 2 : CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by age group

Age group	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
15 – 19	1 090	765
20 – 29	3 216	2 577
30 – 39	3 249	2 941
40 – 49	8 216	7 161
50 – 59	4 970	4 221
Total	20 741	17 665

Table 3 : CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1 or less	1 385	1 096
More than 1 - 2	1 751	1 211
More than 2 - 3	1 483	1 473
More than 3 - 4	1 149	1 086
More than 4 - 5	1 311	1 004
More than 5	13 662	11 795
Total	20 741	17 665

Table 4 : CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by occupation

Occupation	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Cleaner	2 903	2 332
Clerk	882	762
Construction worker/ labourer/decoration worker	772	685
Delivery worker	1 033	932
Domestic helper/baby sitter	558	449
Driver	902	814
General worker/labourer (other than those of construction)	4 647	4 061
Salesperson	1 462	1 267
Waiter/waitress	1 284	1 114
Watchman/guard	1 570	1 221
Others	4 728	4 028
Total	20 741	17 665

Table 5 : CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by employment earnings

Employment earnings	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
\$1,685 ^[Note 3] – less than \$4,200	8 632	6 638
\$4,200 – less than \$6,000	5 542	4 210
\$6,000 – less than \$8,000	4 763	4 332
\$8,000 or above	1 804	2 485
Total	20 741	17 665

Table 6 : CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by geographical district

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Central & Western	136	114
Eastern	841	727
Islands	641	551
Kowloon City	678	595
Kwai Tsing	2 515	2 145
Kwun Tong	3 030	2 664
North	1 016	875
Sai Kung	1 005	855
Sha Tin	1 348	1 130
Sham Shui Po	1 556	1 332
Southern	419	356
Tai Po	619	524
Tsuen Wan	663	549
Tuen Mun	1 225	989
Wan Chai	59	47
Wong Tai Sin	1 840	1 568
Yau Tsim Mong	425	384
Yuen Long	2 725	2 260
Total	20 741	17 665

[Note 1] CSSA unemployed recipients refer to those who are unemployed or who are gainfully employed but with employment earnings less than the standard rate of an able-bodied adult in a family comprising not more than two able-bodied adults/children (i.e. \$1,685 with effect from 1 February 2011 until 31 January 2012).

[Note 2] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 3] CSSA low-earnings recipients refer to those who are gainfully employed and with employment earnings equivalent to or more than the standard rate of an able-bodied adult in a family comprising not more than two able-bodied adults/children (i.e. \$1,685 with effect from 1 February 2011 until 31 January 2012).

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)311

Question Serial No.

1025

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What was the average monthly disregarded earnings (DE) of the unemployed and low-earnings categories of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients under the provision of DE in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The average monthly DE for unemployed and low-earnings CSSA recipients in the past three years were as follows –

Year	Average monthly DE	
	Unemployed recipients (\$)	Low-earnings recipients (\$)
2009-10	859	2,235
2010-11	871	2,240
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	881	2,310

[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the table are compiled based on the data as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)312

Question Serial No.

1026

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide a breakdown of the number of cases that have been stopped from receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) by nature of cases in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively and the reasons. Please also provide the numbers of cases that have reapplied CSSA by month and nature of cases in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The numbers of CSSA cases closed, broken down by case nature and by closure reason, in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed ^[Note] during the financial year 2009-10						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old Age	70	11 222	250	156	2 003	220	13 921
Permanent Disability	6	275	97	72	677	82	1 209
Ill Health	9	502	88	286	1 357	198	2 440
Single Parent	15	10	90	376	2 876	83	3 450
Low-earnings	4	5	69	199	2 306	57	2 640
Unemployment	19	159	266	1 839	3 751	450	6 484
Others	5	17	40	278	802	114	1 256
Total	128	12 190	900	3 206	13 772	1 204	31 400

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed ^[Note] during the financial year 2010-11						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old Age	81	11 268	281	233	2 090	156	14 109
Permanent Disability	4	268	86	89	687	77	1 211
Ill Health	10	500	94	300	1 458	186	2 548
Single Parent	9	11	97	447	3 122	73	3 759
Low-earnings	3	6	81	256	2 591	29	2 966
Unemployment	20	134	253	1 807	4 085	420	6 719
Others	1	11	24	315	891	156	1 398
Total	128	12 198	916	3 447	14 924	1 097	32 710

Closure reason Case nature	Number of CSSA cases closed ^[Note] during the financial year 2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)						
	Excessive absences over limit	Deceased	Ineligible	Lost contact	Withdrawal	Others	Total
Old Age	44	8 678	220	171	2 147	157	11 417
Permanent Disability	0	187	56	61	639	70	1 013
Ill Health	5	373	67	210	1 330	137	2 122
Single Parent	6	9	82	272	2 729	52	3 150
Low-earnings	1	5	75	139	2 398	40	2 658
Unemployment	15	112	210	1 147	3 297	285	5 066
Others	1	11	16	239	770	140	1 177
Total	72	9 375	726	2 239	13 310	881	26 603

The numbers of CSSA re-application cases by case nature in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Case nature Month-Year	Number of CSSA re-application cases ^[Note] during the financial year 2009-10							Total
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	
Apr-2009	469	96	227	245	197	697	83	2 014
May-2009	422	98	243	243	205	686	96	1 993
Jun-2009	478	132	268	266	228	858	80	2 310
Jul-2009	471	102	244	220	156	685	109	1 987
Aug-2009	476	101	236	193	192	603	78	1 879
Sep-2009	452	98	242	203	160	592	93	1 840
Oct-2009	448	93	239	177	165	565	87	1 774
Nov-2009	470	86	232	190	156	557	89	1 780
Dec-2009	419	85	203	158	157	551	73	1 646
Jan-2010	466	89	227	140	152	537	74	1 685
Feb-2010	345	86	170	163	117	411	65	1 357
Mar-2010	522	103	255	202	200	651	86	2 019

Case nature Month-Year	Number of CSSA re-application cases ^[Note] during the financial year 2010-11							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Apr-2010	483	97	224	175	163	498	88	1 728
May-2010	397	102	215	156	143	488	70	1 571
Jun-2010	469	81	233	195	164	554	107	1 803
Jul-2010	457	96	228	185	151	493	100	1 710
Aug-2010	459	91	214	193	158	489	94	1 698
Sep-2010	414	81	214	173	142	502	102	1 628
Oct-2010	367	90	173	139	141	460	93	1 463
Nov-2010	419	100	204	151	128	440	68	1 510
Dec-2010	396	84	198	149	116	402	71	1 416
Jan-2011	420	86	192	136	114	375	78	1 401
Feb-2011	343	73	210	104	131	379	73	1 313
Mar-2011	509	111	240	176	152	525	89	1 802

Case nature Month-Year	Number of CSSA re-application cases ^[Note] during the financial year 2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Apr-2011	376	81	186	135	130	401	73	1 382
May-2011	390	84	217	140	121	465	88	1 505
Jun-2011	376	90	202	137	107	467	86	1 465
Jul-2011	412	98	173	155	104	396	97	1 435
Aug-2011	442	88	196	139	114	406	112	1 497
Sep-2011	386	99	190	145	126	367	92	1 405
Oct-2011	388	87	213	144	127	415	69	1 443
Nov-2011	342	60	200	143	111	362	78	1 296
Dec-2011	371	77	205	108	105	368	65	1 299
Jan-2012	327	61	158	100	89	325	48	1 108

[Note] Except for 2011-12, figures in the table are compiled based on data as at the end of the respective financial years. Cases which have been on CSSA intermittently are counted more than once.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department continued to monitor the implementation of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) throughout the territory in 2011 to provide one-stop district-based community support services for ex-mentally ill persons, persons with suspected mental health problems, their families/carers and local residents. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) How many persons with suspected mental health problems and their families were served under this service in 2010-11 and 2011-12?
- (b) Will the service be expanded in 2012-13, such as increasing the number of community mental health intervention project teams and their team members?
- (c) What was the expenditure involved in 2011-12 and what is the estimated expenditure in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) The ICCMW has commenced service at 24 service points in the territory since October 2010. As at the end of December 2011, they had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised by the ICCMWs.

- (b) & (c) In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up ICCMWs across the territory for the provision of district-based and one-stop community mental health support services. Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management

Programme of the Hospital Authority for patients with severe mental illness and provide service for more people in need. There is no plan to set up additional ICCMW at this stage.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)314

Question Serial No.

1028

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 179 of the Budget Speech that “From 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream”. How many of these subsidised residential care places are nursing homes (NHs) places? How many are care-and-attention (C&A) places? When will admission take place? In what districts are they located? Please provide the information in table form.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The planned provision of additional subsidised residential care places for the elderly from 2011-12 to 2014-15 is as follows –

Type of residential care places	Year of service commencement			
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
NH places	365	507	233	154
C&A places	644	712	15	12
Total	1 009	1 219	248	166

These residential care places will be provided over the territory.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)315

Question Serial No.

1029

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the planned numbers of training places for professional and non-professional staff serving demented elders in 2012-13?
- (b) What is the planned number of training places for care staff serving people with disabilities in the integrated home care services (IHCS) teams in 2012-13? What is the provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will provide 180 and 300 training places respectively for professional and non-professional staff serving demented elders.
 - (b) In 2012-13, SWD will provide 150 training places for care staff serving people with disabilities in the IHCS teams at an estimated cost of \$44,200.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the reasons for not increasing the number of social centres for the elderly (S/Es) in the past three years despite the ageing population?
- (b) What are the reasons for not increasing the number of district elderly community centres (DECCs) in the past three years despite the ageing population?
- (c) Regarding the new neighbourhood elderly centre (NEC) to be set up in 2012-13, where will it be located? When will it commence operation?
- (d) What is the planned increase in manpower for elderly centres in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Currently, there are 41 DECCs, 118 NECs and 51 S/Es which already form a territory-wide social support network for the elders in the community. In 2012-13, one additional NEC will be set up at the new Public Rental Housing Development at Site 1A in Kai Tak Development, Kowloon City District. It is planned to commence service in early 2013 and the estimated annual expenditure is \$2 million. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, operators of elderly centres have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provisions to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and to meet service needs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What were the total numbers of elders applying for the Home Environment Improvement Scheme for the Elderly (HEISE) in 2010-11 and 2011-12? How much money was allocated? How many complaints were received? What is the amount of provision to be allocated to HEISE in 2012-13? What is the estimated number of beneficiaries?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2008-09, a one-off funding of \$200 million was earmarked to launch the five-year HEISE to help needy elderly people improve their home environment. HEISE is implemented through the district elderly community centres (DECCs). About \$40 million from HEISE is allocated to DECCs per annum and it is expected that about 40 000 elderly households will benefit over the five-year period.

Under HEISE, applications have to be made on a household basis. In 2010-11 and during the period of April 2011 to December 2011, about 10 400 and 9 100 eligible household applications were received respectively. During the same periods, no complaint was received.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)318

Question Serial No.

1032

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the provision of outreaching and support services to hidden and vulnerable elders by district elderly community centres (DECCs) and neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs) under the Social Welfare Department (SWD), would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the specific results achieved under the programme in 2011-12?
- (b) Whether the initiative will continue in 2012-13? What are the details of the estimated manpower required and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : SWD has allocated additional recurrent funding to all DECCs and NECs throughout the territory since 2008 for the employment of additional social workers to enhance the outreaching service for hidden and vulnerable elders. Since the implementation of the service, over 16 000 elders were identified and provided with follow-up service as appropriate.

From April to September 2011, over 1 300 hidden and vulnerable elders were identified. This initiative will continue in 2012-13. Currently, the total number of additional social workers allocated to DECCs and NECs is 200. As the recurrent provision of the additional manpower has been included in the annual subvention of DECCs and NECs, there is no breakdown of expenditure involved.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2011, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) enhanced the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the outcome of the inspection and monitoring of residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) in 2011-12;
- (b) the expenditure involved; and
- (c) whether this initiative will be continued in 2012-13, and the estimated manpower required and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) SWD monitors the services of RCHEs and EHCCS through scheduled and/or surprise visits, investigations on complaints, issue of advisory/warning letters, etc.

From April 2011 to January 2012, SWD conducted about 4 400 unannounced inspections of RCHEs, and 48 service monitoring visits to the 24 EHCCS teams including announced and unannounced inspections.

- (b) In 2011-12, the estimated expenditure for the monitoring of RCHEs and EHCCS was \$43.9 million.

- (c) In 2012-13, the SWD will continue to monitor the service quality of RCHEs and EHCCS through a team of 44 staff. The estimated expenditure is \$47.4 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)320

Question Serial No.

1034

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the actual expenditure and estimated provisions for the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively? How does the Administration evaluate the effectiveness of these IFSCs?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The 2010-11 actual expenditure for IFSCs was \$684.0 million and the 2011-12 revised estimate is \$729.3 million. For 2012-13, the estimated provision for IFSCs is \$818.1 million. Under the Service Performance Monitoring System, all IFSCs are required to meet the performance standards. They are subject to the on-going assessments conducted by the Social Welfare Department which monitor their service delivery and performance.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)321

Question Serial No.

1035

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to provide training for social workers and professionals on a wide range of topics on handling child abuse, elder abuse, suicide and sexual violence with special focus on risk assessment, prevention, as well as post-trauma care in violence cases. Please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) How many of the spouse battering and child abuse cases handled in 2010-11 to 2011-12 have been arranged for risk assessment?
- (b) How many cases are in need of consultation of a psychologist/psychiatrist after risk assessment? Do they need to waitlist for the service? If yes, how long is the waitlisting time?
- (c) What is the male-to-female ratio of the individuals under risk assessment?
- (d) If consultation of a psychologist/psychiatrist is necessary, how long does it take to follow up? What is the expenditure involved?
- (e) Besides consultation of a psychologist/psychiatrist, what other services are necessary? Please give specific details and list out each expenditure item.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) Risk assessment was conducted on all new child abuse and spouse/cohabitant battering cases. In 2010-11 and 2011-12 (April to December 2011), 3 146 and 2 230 cases underwent risk assessment respectively.
 - (b) Of the 3 146 and 2 230 cases mentioned in (a) above, 634 cases and 357 cases were referred to the Clinical Psychology Unit (CPU) of SWD for psychological assessment/treatment respectively. The waiting time for clinical psychology service is about four to six weeks.

For high risk cases, urgent appointments can be arranged within a week or earlier. SWD has no statistics on the number of spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases requiring psychiatric service.

- (c) There is no breakdown of the ratio between males and females who have undergone the risk assessment. We would consider capturing such statistics for enhancement of service planning.
- (d) The follow-up time by CPU of SWD for spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases depends on the complexity of the cases, and ranges from six months to over three years. CPU provides services to different types of service users. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated to the handling of spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases. SWD does not have information on the service provided by psychiatrist as such services are not provided by the Department.
- (e) Welfare services, including counselling, refuge and child care service, financial and housing assistance, are provided to victims of spouse /cohabitant battering and child abuse cases. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated for handling spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)322

Question Serial No.

1036

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the numbers of cases applying for Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation (CLEIC) which involved domestic violence over the past five years, with a breakdown of the number of victims by gender and age group (0-15, 16-30, 31-45, 46-60 and 60+).

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Among the 1 802 applications for CLEIC in the past five years from 2007-08 to 2011-12, there were 50 cases involving domestic violence. A breakdown of the number of victims by gender and age group is given below –

	Age Group										Total
	0 - 15		16 - 30		31 - 45		46 - 60		60+		
Year \ Gender	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
2007-08	-	-	-	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	6
2008-09	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	6
2009-10	-	1	2	1	2	5	-	3	-	1	15
2010-11	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	1	2	2	10
2011-12 ^[Note]	-	-	-	1	1	4	-	2	-	5	13
Total	1	1	2	6	5	16	1	8	2	8	50

^[Note] As at the end of January 2012.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : From 2011-12 to 2014-15, the Administration will provide more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places for the elderly. To what extent will the waiting time be shortened by such a measure for over 20 000 elders currently waitlisting for subsidised residential care places for the elderly? With the provision of 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places for the elderly, what is the average waiting time for service admission for elders in various districts (excluding elders who had chosen designated homes or those who were given priority for service admission due to exceptional circumstances)?

District	Subsidised care-and-attention homes	Subsidised nursing homes
Central & Western		
Eastern		
Southern		
Wan Chai		
Kowloon City		
Kwun Tong		
Sham Shui Po		
Wong Tai Sin		
Yau Tsim Mong		
Islands		
Kwai Tsing		
North		
Sai Kung		
Tai Po		
Sha Tin		
Tsuen Wan		
Tuen Mun		
Yuen Long		
Total		

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The additional provision of subsidised residential care places for the elderly will help ease the pressure on waiting time. However, as the waiting time for subsidised residential care places is affected by a number of factors, such as the preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes, whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home, the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional provision of subsidised residential care places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)324

Question Serial No.

1078

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the allocation for taking care of the demented elders living in the community provided by the Administration in the financial year 2012-13? What is the number of centres providing that kind of services? What is the waiting time for such services in each district?

District	Number of cases requiring follow-up actions	Average waiting time
Central & Western		
Eastern		
Southern		
Wan Chai		
Kowloon City		
Kwun Tong		
Sham Shui Po		
Wong Tai Sin		
Yau Tsim Mong		
Islands		
Kwai Tsing		
North		
Sai Kung		
Tai Po		
Sha Tin		
Tsuen Wan		
Tuen Mun		
Yuen Long		
Total		

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Administration provides subsidised community care services (CCS) through 61 day care centres / units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs), 24 Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) teams, 60 Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) teams to support the frail elders (including demented elders) living in the community. The total expenditure for the subsidised CCS is estimated to be \$906.5 million in 2012-13. As at the end of December 2011, the average waiting time for day care places was nine months and that for home-based services was three months. There is no breakdown on the profile of the elders on the waiting list.

Three service teams under the three-year Pilot Scheme for Home Care Services for Frail Elders (Pilot Scheme) have also been providing services to frail elders (including demented elders) in Wong Tai Sin, Sai Kung, Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim Mong, Kowloon City and Sham Shui Po districts since March 2011. The total expenditure for this Pilot Scheme is about \$55 million. The Pilot Scheme seeks to serve at least 510 cases in the said districts over the three-year period. The eligible users will be admitted to services without waiting.

To further enhance the support for demented elders residing in the community, additional recurrent funding of \$9.7 million by way of Dementia Supplement (DS) will be allocated, on top of the existing \$4 million, to subsidised DEs/DCUs starting from 2012-13. Each DE/DCU will be provided with DS at about \$24,000 per demented elder in 2012-13. With additional funding, DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services to enhance training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)325

Question Serial No.

1079

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the allocation for day care centres for the elderly (DEs) in the financial year 2012-13? What is the number of organisations providing day care services? What is the waiting time for such services? In view of the fact that the enrolment rate of DEs has already exceeded 110%, will the Administration increase the area of and provide additional funding for these centres to meet the requirements of Fire Services Ordinance, activity space and care for the elderly?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2012-13, the estimated expenditure on day care services is \$208 million. There are currently 31 non-governmental organisations operating day care centres / units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs). As at the end of January 2012, the average waiting time for day care places was about nine months.

Since some elders occupy only a half-day place or do not attend the centres every day, it is therefore possible for the DEs/DCUs to take in additional elders to fill the unused time slots and places. The enrolment rate of the day care places is set at 110% accordingly to maximise the utilisation. The Social Welfare Department will make reference to the service capacity and standard schedule of accommodation of DEs/DCUs in allocating funding and providing additional space for the centres, which is subject to availability of premises, to meet the service needs of users. The design and fitting-out of all DEs/DCUs projects comply with fire safety requirements.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)326

Question Serial No.

1080

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What is the allocated funding for integrated home care services (IHCS) in the financial year 2012-13?
- (b) Regarding the 24-hour emergency support service under IHCS, what was the number of calls for assistance received from individual districts from March 2011 to January 2012 and the details of assistance requested?
- (c) What are the hotline numbers and addresses of the service units providing 24-hour emergency support service under IHCS in each district?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2012-13, the estimated expenditure for IHCS is \$471.1 million. Regarding the 24-hour emergency support service under IHCS, the number of calls for assistance received from frail elders from March 2011 to December 2011 with breakdown by district was as follows –

District	Number of calls
Central & Western	3
Eastern	4
Wan Chai	1
Southern	0
Islands	0
Kwun Tong	41
Wong Tai Sin	18
Sai Kung	0
Kowloon City	1

District	Number of calls
Sham Shui Po	0
Yau Tsim Mong	0
Sha Tin	11
Tai Po	1
North	0
Yuen Long	0
Tsuen Wan	12
Kwai Tsing	9
Tuen Mun	0
Total	101

The majority of the calls for assistance were related to domestic accidents and acute health problems. The operators of the 60 IHCS teams provide an emergency contact number to their service users for the 24-hour support service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)327

Question Serial No.

1081

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What is the allocated funding for enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) in the financial year 2012-13?
- (b) Regarding the 24-hour emergency support service under EHCCS, what was the number of calls for assistance received from individual districts from March 2011 to January 2012 and the details of assistance requested?
- (c) What are the hotline numbers and addresses of the service units providing 24-hour emergency support service under EHCCS in each district?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) In 2012-13, the estimated expenditure for EHCCS is \$227.4 million.
 - (b) Regarding the 24-hour emergency support service under EHCCS, the number of calls for assistance received from March to December 2011 with breakdown by district was as follows –

District	Number of Calls
Central & Western	45
Eastern	70
Wan Chai	31
Southern	51
Islands	17
Kwun Tong	73
Wong Tai Sin	102
Sai Kung	48

District	Number of Calls
Kowloon City	53
Sham Shui Po	17
Yau Tsim Mong	84
Sha Tin	2
Tai Po	9
North	5
Yuen Long	47
Tsuen Wan	27
Kwai Tsing	50
Tuen Mun	58
Hong Kong Cluster	3
Yau Tsim Mong/Kowloon City/Sham Shui Po Cluster	14
Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung Cluster	157
Kwun Tong Cluster	143
New Territories East Cluster	4
New Territories West Cluster	55
Total	1 165

The majority of the calls for assistance were related to acute health problems and seeking medical, nursing or paramedical advice on health-related issues.

- (c) The operators of the 24 EHCCS teams provide the emergency contact number(s) to their service users for the 24-hour support service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the funding provision for the services for hidden elders in 2012-13?
Please provide the number of social workers dedicated to serve hidden elders in various districts in the following table –

District	Number of social workers serving hidden elders
Central & Western	
Eastern	
Southern	
Wan Chai	
Kowloon City	
Kwun Tong	
Sham Shui Po	
Wong Tai Sin	
Yau Tsim Mong	
Islands	
Kwai Tsing	
North	
Sai Kung	
Tai Po	
Sha Tin	
Tsuen Wan	
Tuen Mun	
Yuen Long	
Total	

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2007-08, an additional recurrent provision of about \$42 million was provided to all district elderly community centres (DECCs) and neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs) in the territory for each of them to recruit one more social worker to enhance the outreaching services for singleton and hidden elders. As the strengthening of outreach services will result in higher demand for DECC services, a further recurrent funding of \$18 million has been provided since June 2008 for each DECC to recruit one more social worker to strengthen their counselling and referral services. These additional recurrent provisions have been included in the annual subvention of DECCs and NECs thereafter. There is no separate breakdown of this expenditure in 2012-13.

The number of additional social workers allocated to DECCs and NECs in 18 districts for this initiative is as follows –

District	Number of additional social worker
Central & Western	8
Eastern	15
Southern	5
Wan Chai	12
Kowloon City	5
Kwun Tong	22
Sham Shui Po	20
Wong Tai Sin	9
Yau Tsim Mong	11
Islands	16
Kwai Tsing	11
North	16
Sai Kung	6
Tai Po	4
Sha Tin	8
Tsuen Wan	8
Tuen Mun	16
Yuen Long	8
Total	200

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) What was the total number of elders who passed away while waitlisting for subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) homes in the past five years?
- (b) What was the total number of elders who passed away while waitlisting for subsidised nursing homes (NHs) in the past five years?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply : (a) The numbers of elders who passed away while waitlisting for subsidised C&A places in the past five years from 2007 to 2011 were 2 449, 2 556, 2 716, 2 971 and 3 189 respectively.
- (b) The numbers of elders who passed away while waitlisting for subsidised NHs places in the past five years from 2007 to 2011 were 1 619, 1 847, 1 822, 1 823 and 1 958 respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)330

Question Serial No.

1089

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the additional foster care service and residential care service for children, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) a breakdown by region, namely, Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories, the present numbers of places and users of different types of foster care service and small group homes (SGHs);
- (b) the Administration's expenditures on different types of foster care service and SGHs in the previous year, and the estimates for the same in the coming year; and
- (c) whether the Administration will introduce initiatives for enhancement of relevant services in the coming year, e.g. higher incentives to attract more foster parents and allowing greater flexibility in service hours, in order to provide additional foster care service and residential care service for children?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) Foster care service is not locality-based. It is a non-institutional service delivered at the foster care parents' home throughout the territory. As at 31 January 2012, the distribution of the foster care service users by region were 45 in Hong Kong, 208 in Kowloon and 644 in the New Territories.

The number of SGH places and children admitted by region are as follows –

Region	Number of places	Number of children admitted
Hong Kong	152	137
Kowloon	296	275
New Territories	416	385
Total	864	797

- (b) The annual expenditures of foster care service and SGHs in 2011-12 are \$92.8 million and \$151.3 million respectively. The estimated expenditure in 2012-13 will be \$119.0 million for foster care service and \$152.6 million for SGHs.
- (c) The Social Welfare Department will raise the foster care allowance in 2012-13 and continue to conduct publicity activities through various mass media and channels of wide coverage to recruit more suitable foster parents.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description of this Programme that the Administration will continue to provide training for social workers and professionals on a range of topics on handling child abuse, spouse battering, elder abuse, suicide and sexual violence in 2012. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the number of social workers and professionals who received the above training in last year, their ranks and the expenditure involved; and
- (b) the estimated number of training places and the estimated expenditure in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) In 2011-12, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) provided training for about 7 300 social workers and professionals on a range of topics on handling child abuse, spouse battering, elder abuse, suicide and sexual violence cases, and the total expenditure was about \$1.94 million. There is no breakdown of the participants by ranks.
 - (b) In 2012-13, SWD will provide about 7 000 training places for social workers and professionals at an estimated cost of \$2 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description of this Programme that the Administration continues to launch publicity and public education programmes on prevention of domestic violence. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the details of and the relevant expenditure on such programmes in 2011;
- (b) the number of vulnerable families served under such programmes through telephone contacts, home visits and other outreaching services in the previous year; and
- (c) the details of and the estimated expenditure on the Family Support Programme in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2011-12, the expenditure for the publicity and public education programmes on prevention of domestic violence is around \$5 million. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has made use of various media channels to publicise the messages of prevention of domestic violence. For example, ten short videos on prevention of domestic violence, child sexual abuse and disputes over child custody were broadcast through Roadshow in public buses in the second quarter of 2011-12 and uploaded to YouTube. Television/radio advertisements against filicide-suicide have also been broadcast in the second quarter and put on Yahoo until the end of the third quarter. District-based public education programmes and activities on combating domestic violence have also been organised from time to time by the District Welfare Offices of SWD.

The Family Support Programme (FSP) has been launched in Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres (IFSCs/ISCs), Family and Child Protective Service Units (FCPSUs) and Psychiatric Medical Social Service Units (MSSUs) since early 2007 with a recurrent funding of \$30 million. Under FSP, 12 401 and 6 284 vulnerable individuals/families had been engaged through telephone contacts, home visits and other outreaching programmes, and referred to services of IFSCs/ISCs/FCPSUs/MSSUs or other community services in 2010-11 and 2011-12 (April to December 2011) respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, it is stated that the Administration would provide a wide range of training for social security staff to strengthen their knowledge and skills in providing social security services. In this connection, would the Administration please provide the following information –

- (a) the number and rank of social security staff (please state whether they are employed on civil service permanent term or non-civil service contract) who had received the training, and the expenditure involved in 2011-12;
- (b) the number of complaint cases against social security sections and the number of substantiated complaints in 2011-12; and
- (c) the number of training places for social security staff and the estimated expenditure in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) In 2011-12, about 600 Social Security Officer Grade staff and 1 500 Social Security Assistant Grade staff (all on civil service permanent terms) and 25 staff employed on non-civil service contract attended training on social security services. The total expenditure involved is about \$0.5 million.
 - (b) In 2011-12 (as at the end of December 2011), there were 82 complaints on social security services, of which 10 complaints were substantiated or partially substantiated.

- (c) In 2012-13, 2 080 training places will be provided for social security staff and the estimated expenditure is about \$0.5 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)334

Question Serial No.

1093

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : A number of cases concerning mental patients committing suicide or murder were reported in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12. In this regard, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) In 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, how many adult probationers were in need of residential service?
- (b) In 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, what were the types of residential service that the adult probationers mentioned above were sent to and the reasons for such arrangements?
- (c) In 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, whether the adult probationers mentioned above had to wait for admission to the institutions? If yes, how long did they have to wait and what were the arrangements during their waiting period?
- (d) Whether any probationers were found missing while awaiting admission? If yes, what was the number of missing cases? and
- (e) What was the nature of these missing cases and the proportion of male to female probationers involved? What follow-up actions have been taken?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Probation service is a community-based rehabilitation programme. The Social Welfare Department does not provide residential service for adult probationers.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will increase the recurrent funding for Dementia Supplement (DS) by \$137 million. This will allow eligible residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres or units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) to have more resources for engaging professional staff. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the criteria for allocating the funding to RCHEs? Regarding the subsidised residential care services provided by non-governmental organisations, as at the end of January 2012, what are the amounts of Infirmity Care Supplement (ICS) and DS allocated to subsidised RCHEs, and the number of elders covered by the respective supplements? Furthermore, what is the number of elders who have met the eligibility criteria as assessed by the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams (CGATs) and by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority (HA), but yet to receive the supplements? Please reply in the table below.

	Total number of infirm and demented elders in all subsidised RCHEs	Number of elders with allocation of supplements (as at the end of January 2012)	Amount of allocation (\$)	Number of elders without allocation of supplements (as at the end of January 2012)
Infirm elders				
Elders with dementia				

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The eligibility of elders for ICS is confirmed by CGATs of HA. Allocation of ICS will be given to RCHEs according to the number of infirm elders in individual RCHEs. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

The eligibility of elders for DS in subvented RCHEs is likewise confirmed by HA's PGTs. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, the Social Welfare Department will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme. Allocation of DS will be given to EBPS homes according to the estimated number of demented elders in individual homes. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

The allocation of ICS and DS in 2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012) is as follows –

	Number of qualified cases for ICS /DS	Number of cases with allocation of supplements	Amount of allocation (\$ million)	Number of cases without allocation of supplements
ICS	1 421	1 421	83.8	0
DS	4 547	4 547	67.2	0

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : While the Administration will increase the recurrent funding by \$137 million for care to elders with dementia (i.e. to assess the pressure borne by elders with behavioural problems scoring over 70 marks), there is still a large percentage of elders who have not been included (i.e. elders with behavioural problems scoring below 70 marks). Has the Administration planned to continue allocating additional resources to homes for the elderly for improving their services for the remaining elders?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : To enhance the support for demented elders in subsidised residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres/units (DEs/DCUs), an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS). The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. SWD will keep in view the service demand in this aspect.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : While the Administration will increase the recurrent funding by \$137 million for care to elders with dementia (i.e. to assess the pressure borne by elders with behavioural problems scoring over 70 marks), there is still a large percentage of elders who have not been included (i.e. elders with behavioural problems scoring below 70 marks). What is the number of elders who score below 70 marks?

Number of elders who score over 70 marks	Number of elders who score below 70 marks

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : To enhance the support for demented elders in subsidised residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres/units (DEs/DCUs), an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS). The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. We believe that it is appropriate to confirm the eligibility of elders based on PGTs' assessment. In 2011-12, 3 127 demented elders living in subvented RCHEs were assessed by PGTs as eligible for DS and 135 were not.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that from 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream. Please inform this Committee clearly of the following –

- (a) How many of these places are subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) homes places provided by non-governmental organisations (NGOs)? When will the places be available for the elders? What is the cost per place? In which District Council districts are such places located? What is the number of additional places in the respective districts?
- (b) How many of these places are subsidised nursing home (NHs) places provided by NGOs? When will the places be available for the elders? What is the cost per place? In which District Council districts are such places located? What is the number of additional places in the respective districts?
- (c) How many of these places are provided by private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)? When will the places be available for the elders? What is the cost per place? In which District Council districts are such places located? What is the number of additional places in the respective districts?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The breakdown of the additional subsidised NH places and C&A places is as follows –

Type of residential care places	Number of places		Estimated time of service commencement	Estimated annual expenditure per place (\$)
	NH	C&A		
(1) Providing additional subsidised residential care places in existing contract RCHEs	537	5	2011-12 to 2014-15	138,120
(2) Providing additional subsidised residential care places through eight new contract RCHEs	466	52	2011-12 to 2014-15	146,003
(3) Providing additional subsidised NH places through the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme	256	0	2011-12 to 2012-13	145,704
(4) Making full use of the space in existing subvented RCHEs to provide more places with continuum of care	0	421	2011-12 to 2012-13	89,220
(5) Providing additional subsidised C&A places through the EBPS	0	905	2011-12 to 2012-13	91,735
Total	2 642		—	—

These residential care places will be provided throughout the territory. The new contract homes are located at Islands, Central & Western, Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po and Sha Tin districts. The Social Welfare Department shall determine the exact number of bought places for each district with regard to the demand for residential care places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide the total number of elders who had waitlisted for nursing home (NH) places in the period from February 2011 to January 2012? How many of them were allocated with NH places, withdrew their applications or passed away while waitlisting? What was their accommodation status (residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), private RCHEs (including those participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)), public housing and private housing)?

	February 2010 to January 2011	February 2011 to January 2012
Number of elders who were allocated with places		
Number of elders who withdrew their applications		
Number of elders who passed away while waitlisting		

Type of accommodation	Number of applicants	
	February 2010 to January 2011	February 2011 to January 2012
RCHEs (excluding private RCHEs)		
Private RCHEs (including those participating in EBPS)		
Public housing		
Private housing		
Others (e.g. hospitals)		

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : From February 2011 to January 2012, there were 9 639 elders waitlisted for subsidised NH places. The number of elders who left the waiting list for various reasons during the above period is as follows –

Reason for leaving the waiting list	Number of elders
Elders who were allocated with places	769
Elders who withdrew their applications	341
Elders who passed away while waitlisting	1 855

The accommodation status of all the elders who waitlisted for subsidised NH places over a period is not available. However, the accommodation status of the 6 518 elders waitlisted for subsidised NH places as at the end of January 2012 is available and is set out below –

Type of accommodation	Number of elders
RCHEs (excluding private RCHEs)	731
Private RCHEs (including those participating in EBPS)	3 733
Public housing	853
Private housing	1 131
Others (e.g. hospital)	70
Total	6 518

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide the total number of elders who had waitlisted for subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) places (excluding those who had waitlisted for subsidised C&A places in private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)) in the period from February 2011 to January 2012? How many of them were allocated with subsidised C&A places, withdrew their applications or passed away while waitlisting? What was their accommodation status (private RCHEs, public housing or private housing)? What was the average waiting time required for such places in various districts (excluding elders who had chosen designated homes as their preference or those who were given priority for service admission due to exceptional circumstances)?

	February 2010 to January 2011	February 2011 to January 2012
Number of elders who were allocated with places		
Number of elders who withdrew their applications		
Number of elders who passed away while waitlisting		

Type of accommodation	Number of applicants	
	February 2010 to January 2011	February 2011 to January 2012
RCHEs (excluding private RCHEs)		
Private RCHEs (including those participating in EBPS)		
Public housing		
Private housing		
Others (e.g. hospitals)		

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : From February 2011 to January 2012, there were 32 768 elders waitlisted for subsidised C&A places. The number of elders who left the waiting list for various reasons during the above period is as follows –

Reason for leaving the waiting list	Number of elders
Elders who were allocated with places	4 139
Elders who withdrew their applications	2 212
Elders who passed away while waitlisting	3 047

Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or EBPS homes, and this choice can be changed by these elders at any time during their waitlisting. The Social Welfare Department only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole.

The accommodation status of the elders who waitlisted for subsidised C&A places over a period is not available. However, the accommodation status of the 21 238 elders waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as at the end of January 2012 is available and is set out below for reference –

Type of accommodation	Number of elders
RCHEs (excluding private RCHEs)	775
Private RCHEs (including those participating in EBPS)	6 200
Public housing	8 071
Private housing	5 961
Others (e.g. hospital)	231
Total	21 238

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will increase the recurrent funding for Dementia Supplement by \$137 million. This will allow eligible residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres or units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) to have more resources for engaging professional staff (including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers) or procuring related professional services for the provision of proper care to every demented service user. What is the respective amount of funding allocated to the RCHEs serving infirm or demented elders? What are the type and number of RCHEs and DEs receiving the funding? Please provide the information in the tables below –

(a) Allocation of Funding

	Infirmity Care Supplement (ICS)	Dementia Supplement (DS)
Amount (\$ million)		

(b) Details of Funding Allocation

	Funding allocated to subsidised RCHEs		Funding allocated to private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)	
ICS	Number of RCHEs:	Number of beneficiaries:	Number of RCHEs:	Number of beneficiaries:
	Amount :		Amount:	
DS	Number of RCHEs:	Number of beneficiaries:	Number of RCHEs:	Number of beneficiaries:
	Amount :		Amount:	

		DEs/DCUs	
ICS	Number of RCHEs:	Number of beneficiaries:	
	Amount :		
DS	Number of RCHEs:	Number of beneficiaries:	
	Amount :		

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) The breakdown of annual recurrent allocation of ICS and DS is as follows –

	ICS (\$ million)	DS (\$ million)
Amount of annual recurrent allocation	\$101.3	\$208.4

(b) Details of the funding allocation are as follows ^[Note] –

		Subvented RCHEs		Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	
ICS	Number of RCHEs : 90	Number of beneficiaries : 1 400		Number of RCHEs : 30	Number of beneficiaries : 120
	Recurrent amount of allocation : \$93.3 million			Recurrent amount of allocation : \$8 million	
DS	Number of RCHEs : 130	Number of beneficiaries : 3 240		Number of RCHEs : 140	Number of beneficiaries : 1 620
	Recurrent amount of allocation : \$129.6 million			Recurrent amount of allocation : \$64.8 million	

		DEs	
DS	Number of DEs : 60	Number of beneficiaries : 570	
	Recurrent amount of allocation : \$13.7 million		

^[Note] Number of beneficiaries and amount of allocation are estimated figures

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Targets under Programme (3) that the numbers of care-and-attention (C&A) places and nursing home (NH) places are 8 484 and 1 954 respectively.

However, as at the end of March 2011, the numbers of elders waitlisting for C&A places and NH places under the Central Waiting List were 20 342 and 6 409 respectively, it is obvious that the demand for these places far exceeds the estimated number of provision. Last year, the Administration acknowledged that the average waiting time for these two types of residential care places was two years and nine months to three years and five months. Despite the Administration's pledge to provide 2 300 additional places in the next four years, the supply of places is still unable to meet the demand.

The Financial Secretary also realised the pressure of an ageing population as well. He stated in the Budget that our population aged 65 or above will increase from the current 0.9 million to 2.1 million in 2030, meaning that there will be an increasing demand for C&A places and NH places. In this connection, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What were the expenditures involved in the provision of these two types of places and their percentage to total expenditure under Programme (3) over the past five years?
- (b) What was the average waiting time for these two types of places over the past five years?
- (c) Under Programme (3), whether it should be the waiting time, instead of the enrolment rate currently in use, serving as indicators of residential care services for the elderly so that the Committee and the public are able to better understand whether the Department's allocation of resources can fully meet the pressing needs of the society?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply: (a) The expenditure on subsidised residential care services as a percentage of the total expenditure on elderly care services was about 60% throughout the past five years.

Expenditure	2007-08 (Actual) (\$ million)	2008-09 (Actual) (\$ million)	2009-10 (Actual) (\$ million)	2010-11 (Actual) (\$ million)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)
Residential Services (a)	2,082.0	2,247.6	2,337.1	2,435.3	2,659.3
Services for Elders (b)	3,301.7	3,718.8	3,907.9	3,992.9	4,313.4
% (a ÷ b x 100%)	63%	60%	60%	61%	62%

(b) The average waiting time for admission to subsidised residential care services in the past five years was as follows –

As at the end of the year	Average Waiting Time ^[Note] (in months)		
	C&A places in subvented/contract homes	C&A places under EBPS	NH places
2007	32	8	46
2008	32	7	40
2009	31	9	39
2010	33	8	37
2011	34	8	37

[Note] Average waiting time for admitted cases in the past three months. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

(c) Since the waiting time for subsidised residential care services is affected by a number of factors beyond the control of the Administration, e.g. the special preference of applicants and the turn-over rates of services etc., it is not appropriate to use waiting time as the indicator.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)343

Question Serial No.

2892

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Will the Administration allocate additional resources for the district elderly community centres (DECCs) to recruit additional social workers and train assessors with a view to easing the workload of the existing staff, and to conduct assessment of long-term care needs of elders as early as possible?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : DECC is one of the various services units, such as medical social services unit, integrated family service centre, etc., in handling applications from elders for subsidised long-term care services.

An additional recurrent funding of \$18 million has already been allocated to 41 DECCs since 2008-09 to enable each of them to recruit a social worker to strengthen their casework services including counselling and referral services, and the processing of applications for subsidised long-term care services for the elderly.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)344

Question Serial No.

2893

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Has the Administration allocated additional resources to provide wage subsidy for organisations to employ nurses and paramedical professionals to alleviate the problem of manpower shortage?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has obtained additional resources of \$344 million from the Lotteries Fund for allocation to the welfare non-governmental organisations concerned for a further period of three years from 2012-13 to 2014-15 to enable them to offer more competitive salaries for the recruitment and retention of paramedical staff (including nurses) or for the hiring of paramedical services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Organisations encounter serious difficulties in recruiting nurses and para-medical professionals in recent years. The situation has affected the quality of services provided. How does the Administration respond to this?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Administration advises the University Grants Committee (UGC) regularly on the demand for tertiary training places, so that the tertiary institutions can make reference to such information when preparing academic development proposals. When UGC was working on the academic plans for the 2012-13 to 2014-15 triennium, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) had updated its projections on the demand (including present and future demand) for various types of nursing and paramedical staff in the social welfare sector. The projections have been relayed to UGC through the Education Bureau. The Administration will allocate resources in the triennium mentioned above to increase the number of first-year first-degree places, among others, in nursing by 40 and allied health professions (e.g. physiotherapists and occupational therapists) by 146. Furthermore, the Administration has set up a Steering Committee on Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development to conduct a strategic review on healthcare manpower planning and professional development covering 13 healthcare disciplines which are subject to statutory regulation.

To alleviate the shortage of allied health professionals in the welfare sector, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University has commenced the two-year Master in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy programmes in January 2012, providing a total of about 60 training places (about 30 each), and the graduates are expected to join the job market in early 2014. SWD has implemented a training sponsorship scheme at the same time to provide funding support for the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to sponsor the tuition fees of students enrolled to respective programmes to encourage them to join the welfare sector upon graduation. Students are required to serve at the relevant NGOs for no less than two years upon graduation.

SWD has also collaborated with the Hospital Authority to organise the 2-year Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector since 2006. A total of ten training classes has been organised, providing a total of 1 150 training places. The training programme is fully subsidised by the Government. The trainees are required to sign an undertaking to work in the welfare sector for two consecutive years upon graduation. Two more courses will be organised, bringing the total number of graduates to about 1500.

SWD has obtained additional resources of \$344 million from the Lotteries Fund for allocation to the welfare non-governmental organisations concerned for a further period of three years from 2012-13 to 2014-15 to enable them to offer more competitive salaries for the recruitment and retention of paramedical staff or for the hiring of paramedical services.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)346

Question Serial No.

2895

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Has the Administration considered drawing up a long-term service plan to increase the residential care places for the elderly every year so as to shorten their waiting time for residential care services?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Administration will continue to provide more residential care places for the elderly. From 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream with details as follows –

Type of residential care places	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Nursing Home Places	365	507	233	154
Care-and-attention Places	644	712	15	12
Total	1 009	1 219	248	166

In addition to the above-mentioned new places, we have earmarked sites in another nine development projects for the construction of new contract RCHEs. We will continue to earmark sites in public housing estate developments, private developments, vacant government premises and schools for provision of residential care services for the elderly.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Does the Administration provide the elders living in the community with any service for the timely identification of early cognitive impairment and appropriate training in order to slow down the deterioration of their condition and improve their quality of life?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Administration supports the frail elders (including those with cognitive impairment) living in the community through 61 day care centres / units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs), 24 enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) teams, 60 integrated home care services (IHCS) teams and three service teams under the Pilot Scheme for Home Care Services for Frail Elders (Pilot Scheme).

To further enhance the support for demented elders residing in the community, an additional recurrent funding of \$9.7 million by way of Dementia Supplement will be allocated, on top of the existing \$4 million, to subsidised DEs/DCUs. With additional funding, DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services to enhance training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary.

To promote public awareness about dementia, the Visiting Health Teams of the Department of Health have also been providing health education and training activities on dementia care for the general public, and family and carers of dementia patients in various community settings to enhance their knowledge of dementia.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Has the Administration made any performance pledge on the maximum waiting time for frail elders waitlisting for nursing home (NH) places so as to reduce the number of elders who passed away while waitlisting?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The waiting time for subsidised NH places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes; whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home; the turn-over rates of individual homes. Therefore, it is not practical to estimate the waiting time and set a performance pledge on the maximum waiting time required for admission to subsidised NH place.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)349

Question Serial No.

2898

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : There is an existing performance pledge made by the Housing Department that elders will be allocated a public housing unit in three years' time. As regards the subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) places and subsidised nursing home (NH) places provided by non-governmental organisations for the elderly, will the Social Welfare Department also make a performance pledge for the elders' admission to such places in three years' time?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The waiting time for subsidised C&A and NH places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes; whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home; the turn-over rates of individual homes, etc. Therefore, it is not practical to estimate the waiting time and set a performance pledge on the time required for admission.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding services that handle the problem of elder abuse, what is the expenditure for this specific item in 2012-13? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need, including victims of elder abuse. Services pertaining to the prevention and tackling of elder abuse cases are provided through District Elderly Community Centres, Neighbourhood Elderly Centres, Support Teams for the Elderly, Integrated Family Service Centres, Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, Clinical Psychology Units, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, etc. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated for this purpose.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding services that handle the problem of child abuse, what is the allocation for this specific item in 2012-13? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, Clinical Psychology Units, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc. In 2012-13, the total estimated allocation for these services is \$2,121.3 million. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated for tackling child abuse.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding services that handle the problem of women battering, what is the provision for this specific item in 2012-13? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, Clinical Psychology Units, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc. Except for the Refuge Centres for Women which are exclusively for women, all support services for victims and abusers of domestic violence are provided to all persons in need, irrespective of gender. In 2012-13, the total estimated provision for these services is \$2,121.3 million. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated for handling the problem of women battering.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)353

Question Serial No.

2902

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding services that handle the problem of men battering, what is the provision for this specific item in 2012-13? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, Clinical Psychology Units, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc. In 2012-13, the total estimated provision for these services is \$2,121.3 million. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated for men battering. Except for the Refuge Centres for Women which are exclusively for women, all support services for victims and abusers of domestic violence are provided to all persons in need, irrespective of gender.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)354

Question Serial No.

2903

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding services that handle sexual violence cases, what is the provision for this specific item in 2012-13? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) adopts a comprehensive, one-stop service model involving multi-disciplinary assistance in handling sexual violence cases. Under the service model, a designated social worker is assigned to provide a range of services including 24-hour outreaching and immediate support, counselling services, reporting to the Police, arrangement of medical treatment and forensic examination, as well as escorting and accompanying the victims to go through all necessary procedures. This service model enables victims to receive service and go through all relevant procedures in a convenient, safe, confidential and supportive environment and minimises the need for the victims to repeat their unpleasant experience. Resources required for the provision of services by SWD and other concerned departments are absorbed by the existing provisions.

As an integral part of this service model, the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre (the Centre) has been set up to provide crisis intervention and support services, including short-term accommodation, to victims of sexual violence and their family members. In 2012-13, the estimated allocation for the Centre is \$10.2 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the amount of allocation for integrated home care services (IHCS) of the Social Welfare Department in 2012-13? What is the difference in the allocation for “food ingredients” as compared with that in financial year 2011-12? What is the utilisation rate for the service? What is the waiting time for meal delivery service and home cleaning service of each district?

District	Waiting time for meal delivery service	Waiting time for home cleaning service
Central & Western		
Eastern		
Southern		
Wan Chai		
Kowloon City		
Kwun Tong		
Sham Shui Po		
Wong Tai Sin		
Yau Tsim Mong		
Islands		
Kwai Tsing		
North		
Sai Kung		
Tai Po		
Sha Tin		
Tsuen Wan		
Tuen Mun		
Yuen Long		
Total		

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The allocation for IHCS in 2012-13 is \$471.1 million. We do not have breakdown of food cost because it is included under Other Charges of the Lump Sum Grant.

As at the end of January 2012, the utilisation rate of IHCS for frail cases (including meal delivery and household cleaning) was 95.2%. The frail elders who had gone through the standardised assessment could waitlist for either IHCS for frail cases and/or Enhanced Home and Community Care Services. The average waiting time was about three months. We do not keep statistics on waiting time specifically for meal delivery and household cleansing services under IHCS.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)356

Question Serial No.

2905

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : There are still over 20 000 elders on the waiting list for the residential care places for the elderly. Does the Administration have any long-term planning in the coming five years? What is the actual number of additional residential places per annum?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : From 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream with details as follows –

Type of residential care places	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Nursing Home places	365	507	233	154
Care-and-attention places	644	712	15	12
Total	1 009	1 219	248	166

In addition to the above-mentioned new places, we have earmarked sites in another nine development projects for the construction of new contract RCHEs. We will continue to earmark sites in public housing estate developments, private developments, vacant government premises and schools for provision of residential care services for the elderly.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)357

Question Serial No.

2908

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : When exactly and in what way will the Administration grant the one additional month of standard rate payments to Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients and one additional month of allowances to Old Age Allowance (OAA) and Disability Allowance (DA) recipients?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Financial Secretary announced in his 2012-13 Budget Speech the provision of an extra payment to CSSA recipients, equal to one month of the CSSA standard rate; and an extra allowance to OAA and DA recipients, equal to one month of the allowances. Subject to the Finance Committee's approval, we aim to implement the proposal around mid-2012.

The extra payment will be made to the recipients concerned through the existing payment method (i.e. normally through bank payment credited to the designated bank accounts).

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)358

Question Serial No.

2912

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the number of elder abuse cases seeking assistance in each of the past five years?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply Based on the information collected by the Central Information System on Elder Abuse Cases of the Social Welfare Department, the respective numbers of reported elder abuse cases seeking assistance in the past five years were as follows –

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of Cases	612	647	465	319	368

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As shown in the service indicators, the number of groups and programmes organised by Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) run by the government sector will be reduced substantially from 4 890 to 4 760 in the coming year, whereas those organised by IFSCs run by the subvented sector will also be reduced from 2 862 to 2 129. What are the reasons for the reduction in service?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The estimated number of groups and programmes provided by IFSCs in 2011-12 is a projection based on the actual number of groups and programmes organised in the first two quarters of 2011-12, whereas the figure for 2012-13 is the aggregate of the output indicators as stipulated in the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs). IFSCs may, as in previous years, organise more groups and programmes than the output level as required in the FSAs according to service needs. The estimated numbers of 4 760 and 2 129 in 2012-13 reflect only the output indicators set out in the FSAs rather than the actual numbers of groups and programmes to be provided.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)360

Question Serial No.

2916

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information on the expenditure incurred for Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) for organising groups and programmes in the previous year and the estimate for providing these services in the coming year.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The 2011-12 revised estimate for IFSCs is \$729.3 million and the 2012-13 estimate is \$818.1 million. IFSCs provide a spectrum of services, including casework, counselling as well as groups and programmes, to address the multifarious needs of individuals and families. There is no breakdown of the funding provision for individual services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is noticed from the Targets under this Programme that the Administration will not increase the provision of the child care centre (CCC) and occasional child care service (OCCS) in 2012-13. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The provision of CCC, including standalone CCCs, CCCs attached to kindergartens and OCCS, can meet the service demand. The average utilisation rates of the above services are about 99%, 76% and 71 % respectively.

In order to enhance the support for parents who cannot take care of their children temporarily because of work or other reasons, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has regularised the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) and extended its service coverage to all 18 districts in October 2011. Upon the regularisation and extension, NSCCP will provide a total of at least 468 home-based child care places and 252 centre-based care group places over the territory.

SWD will continue to monitor the demand for various child care services and increase the provision as necessary.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)362

Question Serial No.

2918

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide information on the number of places, enrolment and utilisation rate of day child care centre (CCC) and occasional child care services (OCCS) in 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : There are 690 aided full-day standalone CCC places for children below the age of three under the purview of the Social Welfare Department. The average utilisation rate of the service between April and September 2011 was 99%. As for OCCS, there are 217 units with an average utilisation rate of 71% between April and September 2011.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)363

Question Serial No.

2919

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What were the expenditures for day child care centres and occasional child care service in the previous year? What are the estimates for day child care centres, occasional child care service and mutual help child care centres in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The estimated expenditures for aided full-day standalone child care centres and occasional child care service in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as follows –

Service	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2012-13 Estimate (\$ million)
Standalone child care centres	4.8	4.8
Occasional child care service	17.5	17.9

For the subsidy scheme for mutual help child care centres, the estimated expenditure in 2012-13 is \$2.1 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)364

Question Serial No.

2920

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : If the provision for the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and Social Security Allowance (SSA) Schemes is reduced as a result of recipients' leaving the schemes, would the Administration provide the numbers of cases that had left the schemes in 2011-12 and the estimated numbers of cases that will leave the schemes in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The estimated expenditures for the CSSA and SSA Schemes in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are summarised in the table below. Whether or not the one-off payments of one additional month of CSSA standard rate / SSA allowance to the recipients are taken into account, the estimated expenditures for CSSA and SSA in 2012-13 are higher than the revised estimates of these two Schemes in 2011-12.

	2011-12 Revised Estimate (\$ million)	2012-13 Estimate (\$ million)
CSSA Scheme	18,501 (19,578) ^[Note]	19,326 (20,582) ^[Note]
SSA Scheme	9,087 (9,805) ^[Note]	10,026 (10,848) ^[Note]

^[Note] Figures in brackets denote expenditures including the one-off payments of one additional month of CSSA standard rate / SSA allowance to the recipients. The additional payment for 2012-13 is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)365

Question Serial No.

2921

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the residential services for persons with disabilities, there has always been a difference in the average cost per place per month between the places provided by the government sector and the subvented sector, resulting in a lower average cost per place per month of the places provided by the subvented sector than the government sector. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the reasons for the said difference between the two sectors; and
- (b) the reasons for the further difference in the estimate for 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) & (b) As stated in the Controlling Officer's Report, we could not draw any direct comparison of costs between the government sector and the subvented sector. The cost figures for the government sector reflect the full cost of services rendered by the Social Welfare Department, which cover other non-cash expenditure such as depreciation, etc. On the other hand, the cost figures for the subvented sector are the net total provision required after taking fee income into account.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)366

Question Serial No.

2922

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, what has the Administration done and the expenditure involved in supporting families which are unable to fulfil their functions? Have additional resources been allocated to evaluate the effectiveness of these services? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides a comprehensive network of family and child welfare services such as integrated family service, family and child protective service (including services for child abuse, spouse/cohabitant battering and child custody dispute cases), family support networking teams, clinical psychological service, residential care service for children (including foster care, small group homes and other residential homes for children), day child care service and adoption service, etc. to support families which are unable to fulfil their functions.

In 2012-13, SWD will enhance the residential child care services by providing 100 additional service places and raising the foster care allowance for foster families by more than 30%. Besides, we will also set up three new integrated family service centres in districts with greater service demand, bringing the total number of such centres to 65.

The total provision for family and child welfare services in the 2012-13 estimate is \$2,121.3 million.

SWD has been monitoring the service performance of subvented services through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, SWD assesses and monitors the performance standards of subvented services through the regular reports submitted by non-governmental organisations operating the service, SWD's scheduled/surprise visits to the service units, etc.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)367

Question Serial No.

2923

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What specific work has the Administration done and the expenditure involved in helping families in trouble? Have additional resources been allocated to evaluate the effectiveness of these services? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides a comprehensive network of family and child welfare services such as integrated family service, family and child protective service (including services for child abuse, spouse/cohabitant battering and child custody dispute cases), family support networking teams, clinical psychological service, residential care service for children (including foster care, small group homes and other residential homes for children), day child care service and adoption service, etc. to help families in trouble.

In 2012-13, SWD will enhance the residential child care services by providing 100 additional service places and raising the foster care allowance for foster families. Besides, we will also set up three new integrated family service centres in districts with greater service demand, bringing the total number of such centres to 65.

The total provision for family and child welfare services in the 2012-13 estimate is \$2,121.3 million.

SWD has been monitoring the service performance of subvented services through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, SWD assesses and monitors the performance standards of subvented services through the regular reports submitted by non-governmental organisations operating the service, SWD's scheduled/ surprise visits to the service units, etc.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)368

Question Serial No.

2924

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : One of the objectives of the services provided by the Social Welfare Department under this Programme is to implement the Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence (VSP). Please list the specific details of VSP, the expenditure involved and the number of additional residential places provided for centres with VSP.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : VSP commenced operation in June 2010 with an allocation of about \$5 million per annum. Under VSP, emotional support and relevant information on judicial proceedings and social support services are provided to victims of spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases, particularly those undergoing judicial proceedings. In addition, publicity work and recruitment of volunteers to assist the service users are conducted. There is no provision of residential places under VSP.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : I often receive complaints from the public about the adverse attitude of the social security staff. It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” under this Programme that training will be provided for social security staff. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the contents and progress of the training as well as the expenditure and the manpower involved; and
- (b) the follow-up measures for improving the working attitude of the staff?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will provide a series of training programmes including those on communication and customer service skills to social security staff to enhance their understanding of the needs of social security applicants and their awareness when handling these applicants. The training programmes with a total expenditure of \$0.5 million are mainly coordinated by three Social Security Officer Grade staff with the support of two Executive Officers and two clerical staff.
 - (b) Besides reviewing and updating the training programmes to meet the latest service needs, SWD will provide advice, guidance and on-the-job-training to frontline staff to continue to enhance their customer-oriented attitude at work.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)370

Question Serial No.

2926

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the Indicators under this Programme, the cost per place per month for all care-and-attention (C&A) homes in the 2012-13 estimate is lower than the amount in 2010-11. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the reasons behind the lower increase in the 2012-13 estimate;
- (b) whether it has assessed the cost implications of inflation; and
- (c) the impact of underestimating the inflation on service users?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) – (c) The unit cost of places in C&A homes has increased from \$10,022 in the 2011-12 revised estimate to \$10,163 in the 2012-13 estimate. The cost per place per month comprises subventions for Personal Emoluments (PE) and Other Charges (OC). The unit cost in the 2011-12 revised estimate is calculated on the basis of subvention in the 2011-12 estimate in respect of which PE has been adjusted subsequent to the 2011-12 civil service pay adjustment. The subvention for the 2012-13 estimate is based on the same level of staff cost as in the 2011-12 revised estimate while costs other than staff cost have been adjusted according to the Composite Consumer Price Index. Since other costs form a relatively small part of the unit cost, the change in unit cost from the 2011-12 revised estimate to that in the 2012-13 estimate is not significant. The staff cost in 2012-13 may be further adjusted after the 2012-13 civil service pay adjustment, which will then be reflected in the unit cost in the 2012-13 revised estimate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the outreaching social work as shown in the indicators under this Programme, the numbers of cases served, cases closed having achieved case goal plan per team and clients identified in the 2011-12 revised estimate were greater than those in the 2010-11 actual. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) The reasons behind the greater numbers of cases and clients in the 2011-12 revised estimate than those in the 2010-11 actual; and
- (b) Will the Administration consider increasing the number of outreaching social work teams (OSWTs)?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply :
- (a) To strengthen proactive outreaching services to youths at risk, each of the 16 OSWTs has been provided with one additional social worker post since December 2010. In the 2011-12 revised estimate, the workload taken up by the additional posts has been reflected. The overall numbers of cases served, cases closed having achieved case goal plan per team and clients are therefore higher than those in 2010-11.
 - (b) In 2012-13, three additional youth outreaching teams will be set up in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung to reach out to more youths at risk.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)372

Question Serial No.

2928

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the indicators regarding outreaching social work under this Programme, there is only an increase of \$2 in the cost per case per month in 2012-13 estimate as compared with 2011-12 revised estimate. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the reasons for the lower percentage increase in the 2012-13 estimate;
- (b) whether it has assessed the implications of inflation on the cost; and
- (c) the impact of underestimating inflation on service users?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) Owing to additional provision for setting up three additional youth outreaching teams and increase in operating expenses, the total expenditure for outreaching social work teams in 2012-13 is estimated to increase by 6.8% as compared with the 2011-12 revised estimate. As the additional outreaching teams will take up more new cases, the overall number of cases served is estimated to increase from 14 823 in 2011-12 to 15 980 in 2012-13.

- (b) & (c) The increase in operating expenses has already been reflected in the estimated expenditure for youth outreaching services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)373

Question Serial No.

2929

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP), are there any statistics that can be released and what are the resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : BIP has become a regular service since 2008-09. The number of participants of BIP since 2008-09 is as follows –

Year	Total number of participants
2008-09	80
2009-10	96
2010-11	81
2011-12	74

There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated to BIP as it is a component of the counselling service for batterers provided by the Family and Child Protective Services Units of the Social Welfare Department.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the Pilot Project on Child Fatality Review and the expenditure required?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Pilot Project on Child Fatality Review (the Pilot Project) was conducted between February 2008 and February 2011 with the purpose of identifying effective ways for prevention of avoidable child deaths. Altogether, 209 death cases involving children aged below 18 which occurred in the years 2006 and 2007 and had been reported to the Coroner were reviewed under the Pilot Project. The Review Panel of the Pilot Project (the Review Panel), comprising members from different professions and disciplines, released its final report in January 2011. A standing Child Fatality Review Panel was subsequently appointed to continue to review the child fatality cases which occurred in 2008 and beyond.

Members of the Review Panel were appointed by the Director of Social Welfare and received no honorarium for the service. Secretariat support is provided by the Social Welfare Department from within the existing provision.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)375

Question Serial No.

2931

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Do the Labour and Welfare Bureau and the Social Welfare Department (SWD) have any plan to review the weighting system of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices (SSAIP) for the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme? If yes, when will the review be conducted? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The weighting system of SSAIP for CSSA Scheme truthfully presents the expenditures of CSSA recipients on individual categories of goods and services as a proportion of their total expenditures. It is compiled using data obtained from the Household Expenditure Survey (HES) on CSSA Households. Applying these weights in the calculation of SSAIP can reflect more accurately the impact of price changes on CSSA recipients.

SWD updates the weighting system of SSAIP every five years with reference to HES on CSSA Households so that the index can more accurately reflect the latest expenditure pattern of CSSA Households. In the latest updating exercise, 2009/10 has been adopted as the new base year to capture the latest expenditure pattern of CSSA recipients. The next round of HES on CSSA Households is planned to be conducted in 2014/15.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)376

Question Serial No.

2932

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the year of residence in Hong Kong of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients, please provide information on the number of recipients who have resided in Hong Kong for seven years or less, specifying the length of residence, in 2009-10 and 2010-11 and the expenditure on CSSA involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Statistics on the numbers of CSSA recipients who had resided in Hong Kong for less than seven years as at the end of 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively were as follows –

Length of residence in Hong Kong	2009-10	2010-11
< 1 year	1 320	971
1 - < 2 years	2 049	2 214
2 - < 3 years	2 429	2 390
3 - < 4 years	3 051	2 632
4 - < 5 years	3 955	3 099
5 - < 6 years	3 377	3 915
6 - < 7 years	6 118	3 409
Total	22 299	18 630

The CSSA expenditures (including the payment of one additional month of the CSSA standard rate) involved in 2009-10 and 2010-11 were \$869 million and \$699 million respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the publicity programmes on combating domestic violence and the financial resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has made use of various media channels to publicise the messages of prevention of domestic violence. For example, in 2011-12, 10 short videos on prevention of domestic violence, child sexual abuse and disputes over child custody were broadcast through Roadshow in public buses in the second quarter and uploaded to YouTube. Television/radio advertisements against filicide-suicide have also been broadcast in the second quarter and put on Yahoo until the end of the third quarter. District-based public education programmes and activities on combating domestic violence have also been organised from time to time by the District Social Welfare Offices of SWD. In 2011-12, the expenditure for the publicity and public education programmes on prevention of domestic violence is around \$5 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the set up of a standing mechanism on Child Fatality Review and the expenditure required?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The standing child fatality review mechanism has been in place since 1 June 2011 with an objective to identify effective ways for preventing avoidable child deaths. The Child Fatality Review Panel (Review Panel), comprising members from different professions and disciplines, reviews child death cases which occurred in 2008 and beyond. Members of the Review Panel are appointed by the Director of Social Welfare. They receive no honorarium for their service and secretariat support is provided by the Social Welfare Department from within the existing provision.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)379

Question Serial No.

3051

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What type of direct support will be strengthened by the Administration for victims of domestic violence and families in need of assistance? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through the Integrated Family Service Centres(IFSCs)/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, Clinical Psychology Units, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence, residential care placements for children, child care centres, etc. In 2012-13, three new IFSCs will be set up and 100 additional residential child care places will be provided to strengthen support services to victim of domestic violence and families in need. The total estimated allocation for all the services mentioned above is \$2,121.3 million in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What services and public funds are involved in helping families in trouble?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides a comprehensive network of family and child welfare services such as integrated family service, family and child protective service (including services for child abuse, spouse/cohabitant battering and child custody dispute cases), family support networking teams, clinical psychological service, residential care service for children (including foster care, small group homes and other residential homes for children), day child care service and adoption service, etc. to preserve, strengthen and support the family and help families in trouble.

In 2012-13, SWD will enhance the residential child care services by providing 100 additional service places and raising the foster care allowance for foster families by more than 30%. Besides, three new integrated family service centres will be set up in districts with greater service demand, bringing the total number of such centres to 65.

The total provision for family and child welfare services in the 2012-13 estimate is \$2,121.3 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How will the Administration help the able-bodied Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients become self-reliant? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : To help employable CSSA recipients become self-reliant, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has been implementing various employment assistance programmes, namely the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme, the Special Training and Enhancement Programme, the New Dawn Project and the Community Work Programme. The estimated expenditure of these employment assistance programmes in 2012-13 is \$104.5 million. SWD is now carrying out a review to integrate and improve these programmes with a view to enhancing effectiveness and achieving synergy.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)382

Question Serial No.

3054

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the Administration's plans, goals and targets in launching and enhancing public education programmes on prevention and handling of domestic violence? Will the Administration consider channels other than television advertisements and posters? Are there any designated publicity means for the Administration?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Administration is committed to preventing and tackling domestic violence. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) launches publicity and public education programmes every year to enhance public awareness of the importance of family solidarity and prevention of domestic violence. To achieve the widest coverage in the territory, SWD makes use of various media channels and means to publicise the messages of prevention of domestic violence. In 2011-12, ten short videos on prevention of domestic violence, child sexual abuse and disputes over child custody were broadcast through Roadshow in public buses in the second quarter and uploaded to YouTube. Television/radio advertisement against filicide-suicide have also been broadcast starting in the second quarter and put on Yahoo until the end of the third quarter of 2011-12. District-based public education programmes and activities on combating domestic violence will also be organised by the District Welfare Offices of SWD in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)383

Question Serial No.

3100

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the total number of residential places in refuges for women at present? Has any survey been conducted on the total number of residential places required across the territory to meet the demand?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : There are five refuge centres for women (Refuge Centres) providing a total of 260 places. In 2011, the average utilisation rate of the Refuge Centres was around 81%. Taking into account the fluctuating service demand, the Refuge Centres have exercised the flexibility in admission with a view to meeting the service demand as far as possible. There is a mutual referral mechanism among the five Refuge Centres to ensure that women and children-in-need will not be denied access to the service owing to shortage of places in a particular refuge centre which the victim approaches. The Social Welfare Department has not received any reported waitlisted/rejected cases because of no vacancy so far and will keep in view the service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)384

Question Serial No.

3101

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the total number of residential places in refuge centres for the elderly at present? Has any survey been conducted on the total number of residential places required across the territory to meet the demand?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre and the Family Crisis Support Centre provide temporary accommodation to individuals/families in crisis, including elders. There is also temporary accommodation including emergency placements in subvented residential care homes for the elderly specially targeted at elders having urgent care need. In view of the fluctuating service demand, the number of placements required cannot be estimated. The above centres would exercise flexibility in providing services to needy elders with a view to meeting the service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

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Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)385

Question Serial No.

3109

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Despite that there were quite a number of youth problems such as drug abuse, suicide and delinquency in recent years, there is no increase in the estimated number of cases served and clients served in the indicators of school social work under this Programme. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : To help prevent and tackle student drug abuse and related problems, school social work services have been enhanced with a 20% increase in manpower, i.e. 96 additional school social workers (SSWs), with effect from September 2011. With the provision of additional staff, the overall number of cases served by SSWs is estimated to increase from 26 028 in 2011-12 to 27 864 in 2012-13. The number of clients served is not a performance indicator for school social work service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)386

Question Serial No.

3110

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What plans and measures will the Administration introduce in 2012-13 to address youth problems and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department, in cooperation with non-governmental organisations, provides a wide spectrum of preventive, developmental and remedial services to help and develop young people to become mature, responsible and contributing members of the society. In 2012-13, three additional youth outreaching teams will be set up in Tseung Kwan O, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung to reach out to more youths at risk, at an estimated expenditure of \$12 million per annum. The overall estimated expenditure for young people services in 2012-13 is about \$1.7 billion.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)387

Question Serial No.

3111

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide in table form the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients under the single parent category, their gender, age distribution, marital status, level of education, the number of children in their families, the age distribution of their children (with breakdowns on aged 0-5, aged 5-10, aged 10-12, aged 12-14 and aged 15) as well as other sources of income apart from CSSA payments in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Statistics on single parent CSSA recipients with breakdown by selected profiles in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Age group	2010-11 (As at the end of March 2011)			2011-12 (As at the end of January 2012)		
	Gender		Total	Gender		Total
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
18-24	13	428	441	14	404	418
25-29	56	1 200	1 256	52	1 153	1 205
30-39	692	8 465	9 157	591	7 940	8 531
40-49	1 672	12 956	14 628	1 521	12 389	13 910
50-59	1 953	3 216	5 169	1 927	3 127	5 054
60 or over	841	166	1 007	838	160	998
Total	5 227	26 431	31 658	4 943	25 173	30 116

Marital status	2010-11 (As at the end of March 2011)			2011-12 (As at the end of January 2012)		
	Gender		Total	Gender		Total
	Male	Female		Male	Female	
Never Married	141	2 038	2 179	148	2 068	2 216
Married/Cohabited	1 549	2 199	3 748	1 357	2 145	3 502
Separated	1 088	4 863	5 951	1 036	4 535	5 571
Divorced	2 095	12 593	14 688	2 078	12 077	14 155
Widowed	354	4 738	5 092	324	4 348	4 672
Total	5 227	26 431	31 658	4 943	25 173	30 116

Educational attainment	2010-11	2011-12
	(As at the end of March 2011)	(As at the end of January 2012)
No schooling/kindergarten	2 555	2 264
Primary	13 516	12 642
Lower Secondary	9 459	9 140
Upper Secondary	5 617	5 550
Matriculation or above ^[Note 1]	511	520
Total	31 658	30 116

Number of children ^[Note 2]	2010-11	2011-12
	(As at the end of March 2011)	(As at the end of January 2012)
1	18 194	17 575
2	10 853	10 096
3	2 194	2 060
4	356	318
5 or above	61	67
Total	31 658	30 116

Age of children	Number of children ^[Note 2]	
	2010-11 (As at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (As at the end of January 2012)
0-5	7 012	6 664
6-10	11 476	10 738
11-12	6 471	6 294
13-14	7 948	7 227
15-21	15 664	14 926
Total	48 571	45 849

Type of monthly income	2010-11 (As at the end of March 2011) (\$'000)	2011-12 (As at the end of January 2012) (\$'000)
Employment earnings from eligible family members of the case and meals provided by employer	26,823	27,135
Contributions from friends/relatives	1,034	1,193
Meals provided by other parties (e.g. kindergartens)	59	51
Maintenance payment ^[Note 3]	3,281	3,310
Pension	156	148
Other income	181	173
Overall	31,534	32,010

[Note 1] Including institutes under the Vocational Training Council and commercial schools.

[Note 2] Refers to those aged below 15 or 15-21 (engaging in full-time education) receiving child rate of CSSA.

[Note 3] Excluding nominal amount of maintenance payment which is equivalent to a monthly sum of no more than \$1.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)388

Question Serial No.

3112

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What was the number of additional subsidised residential care places provided in 2011-12? What is the increase in 2012-13 as compared with 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The number of additional subsidised residential care places to commence service in 2011-12 was 1 009 and the percentage increase as compared with the provision of subsidised residential care places of the previous year was 4.1%. The number of additional subsidised residential care places to commence service in 2012-13 is 1 219 and the percentage increase as compared with the provision of subsidised residential care places of the previous year is 4.8%.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide information on the total numbers of elders waitlisting for subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) places and nursing home (NH) places respectively for the years 2010-11 to 2011-12 (up to January 2012)?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : As at the end of January 2011, the number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A and NH places was 20 395 and 6 471 respectively. As at the end of January 2012, the respective number was 21 238 and 6 518.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What were the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases receiving rent allowance, and among them, the numbers of cases receiving the maximum rent allowance (MRA) in 2010-11 and 2011-12 (for months with data available)? Please break down the numbers by recipients living in private housing and public housing and by the number of household members.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) The numbers of CSSA cases in private and public housing receiving rent allowance (with breakdown by the number of eligible members) in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Number of eligible members	Number of CSSA cases receiving rent allowance			
	Private housing		Public housing	
	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1	20 417	19 200	70 148	71 004
2	10 336	9 679	44 714	44 336
3	5 909	5 444	22 660	21 075
4	2 379	2 272	12 370	10 858
5	737	714	4 436	3 770
6 and above	362	329	1 575	1 365
Total	40 140	37 638	155 903	152 408

- (b) The numbers of CSSA cases in private housing and public housing receiving MRA (with breakdown by the number of eligible members) in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Number of eligible members	Number of CSSA cases receiving the MRA			
	Private housing		Public housing	
	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
1	14 082	13 513	3 286	3 366
2	4 916	4 934	163	199
3	2 873	2 847	19	31
4	1 181	1 244	12	12
5	444	442	5	4
6 and above	189	197	1	2
Total	23 685	23 177	3 486	3 614

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out the numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases of different categories, including old age, disability, ill health, single parent family, low-earnings, unemployment and others in 2010-11 and 2011-12 and the related Government expenditure involved. What are the estimated numbers of cases of the various categories and the expenditure involved in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The average numbers of CSSA cases and the expenditures by case nature in 2010-11 were as follows –

Case nature	2010-11 (Actual)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	148 928	9,477
Permanent disability	17 788	1,168
Ill health	23 772	1,754
Single parent	33 354	2,942
Low-earnings	13 425	1,069
Unemployment	26 591	1,660
Others	6 585	423
Total	270 443	18,493

The estimated average numbers of CSSA cases and the estimated expenditures by case nature in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively are as follows –

Case nature	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	149 400	10,115
Permanent disability	18 100	1,312
Ill health	23 800	1,959
Single parent	32 100	3,059
Low-earnings	12 000	1,039
Unemployment	24 400	1,631
Others	6 600	463
Total	266 400	19,578

Case nature	2012-13 (Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	150 800	10,799
Permanent disability	18 500	1,396
Ill health	24 300	2,101
Single parent	31 900	3,099
Low-earnings	11 800	1,040
Unemployment	24 200	1,650
Others	7 000	497
Total	268 500	20,582

^[Note] Expenditure included one additional month of standard rate payment in each of the years. The additional payment for 2012-13 is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee. Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding effect.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)392

Question Serial No.

3206

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the numbers of applications for Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) and Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) and the Administration's financial commitments incurred in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively? What are the anticipated numbers of applicants for the two types of allowances and the expenditure involved in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The average numbers of HOAA and NOAA cases per month and the expenditures incurred in 2010-11 were as follows –

Allowance Type	2010-11 (Actual)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
HOAA	427 406	5,552
NOAA	67 328	897

The estimated average numbers of HOAA and NOAA cases per month and expenditures in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively are as follows –

Allowance Type	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
HOAA	436 300	5,948
NOAA	72 600	991

Allowance	2012-13 (Estimate)

Type	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
HOAA	455 500	6,426
NOAA	83 500	1,179

^[Note] Expenditure includes the payment of one additional month of the allowance in each of the years. The additional allowance for 2012-13 is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)393

Question Serial No.

3207

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the elders under the Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) Scheme, are there any changes in the estimated numbers of the elders who will return to Guangdong Province and Fujian Province in 2012-13 as compared with those in 2011-12? What is the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The estimated numbers of PCSSA recipients residing in Guangdong Province and Fujian Province and the estimated expenditures on PCSSA payments in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively are as follows –

	2011-12	2012-13
Estimated number of PCSSA recipients residing in Guangdong Province	2 410	2 505
Estimated number of PCSSA recipients residing in Fujian Province	190	210
Estimated total number of PCSSA recipients	2 600	2 715
Estimated expenditure (\$ million)	96	100

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many additional places for residential care service for children are planned to be provided in 2012-13? What is the expenditure for such service?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Administration has allocated \$13.1 million per annum to provide an additional 100 residential child care service places in 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)395

Question Serial No.

3209

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many additional residential places in refuge centres for women (Refuge Centres) are planned to be provided in 2012-13? What is the allocation for care services provided by Refuge Centres?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : There are five refuge centres for women (Refuge Centres) providing a total of 260 places. In 2011, the average utilisation rate of the Refuge Centres was around 81%. Taking into account the fluctuating service demand, the Refuge Centres have exercised the flexibility in admission with a view to meeting the service demand as far as possible. There is a mutual referral mechanism among the five Refuge Centres to ensure that women and children-in-need will not be denied access to the service owing to shortage of places in a particular refuge centre which the victim approaches. The Social Welfare Department has not received any reported waitlisted/rejected cases because of no vacancy so far. In the circumstance, the Administration has no plan to increase the number of places of Refuge Centres as the current provision is adequate in meeting the service demand. In 2012-13, the total estimated allocation for the five Refuge Centres is around \$24 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)396

Question Serial No.

3210

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that it would provide some 180 day care (DC) places for the elderly, what are the financial resources involved? What is the distribution of these places by district?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : An estimated annual allocation of \$13.8 million has been earmarked to provide 185 additional DC places from 2012-13 onwards. The breakdown of these additional DC places by district is as follows –

District	Number of additional DC places
Kwun Tong	60
Sham Shui Po	20
Sha Tin	45
Kwai Tsing	60
Total	185

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)397

Question Serial No.

3211

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the allocation earmarked by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) for promoting active ageing in 2012-13? Is there any change in the allocation as compared with that in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The promotion of active ageing is part and parcel of the services provided by elderly centres and hence there is no separate breakdown on its expenditure.

Apart from elderly centres, SWD also promotes active ageing through the Opportunities for the Elderly Project (OEP). OEP subsidises various social service agencies, district organisations, volunteer groups and educational agencies to carry out programmes to promote a sense of worthiness among elders and advocate a spirit of care for elders in the community. Similar to the previous year, \$3 million is earmarked to subsidise programmes under the OEP in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)398

Question Serial No.

3212

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many places will be provided by the Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector in 2012-13? What is the provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department will launch two batches of the Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for Welfare Sector providing a total of 320 training places at an estimated cost of \$24.6 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)399

Question Serial No.

3213

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated expenditure for the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The estimated expenditure on the provision under EBPS in 2012-13 is \$58.4 million per month.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : I often receive complaints from elders about the waiting time for integrated home care services (IHCS) being too long, especially the meal delivery service. However, the estimated number of cases served for IHCS will remain unchanged in 2012-13, what are the reasons? What is the allocation involved for this service?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The allocation for IHCS in 2012-13 is \$471.1 million. In addition to IHCS, the Administration also provides community care and support services to frail elders through the enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS). The Administration has allocated funding to substantially increase EHCCS places in 2011-12 (1 500 places) and will continue to do so in 2012-13 (500 places). The number of new places is larger than the number of frail elders currently waiting for home care services (about 400).

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the specific plans for support services for carers of elders in 2012-13? What is the allocation involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Support services to carers of elders are provided by various types of residential care service units as well as community care and support service units for the elderly. These include residential care homes for the elderly, day care centres/units, elderly centres and home care service teams, etc. Services provided include day and overnight respite services, provision of information, training and counselling services, assistance in forming carers' mutual help groups, setting up resource centres and demonstration and loan of rehabilitation equipment, etc.

Since October 2007, the District-based Scheme on Carer Training (the Scheme) has been launched in elderly centres to organise carer training programmes to enhance carers' capability in taking care of the elders. There have been 119 elderly centres participated in the Scheme and over 8 400 carers have been trained up.

Furthermore, in addition to those currently provided in all subvented homes and contract homes, the Administration plans to make use of the casual vacancies of bought places in private residential care homes under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme to provide more respite places for elders residing in the community with effect from 1 March 2012.

As carer support is part and parcel of the residential care services as well as community care and support services for the elderly, there is no breakdown of expenditure for this item.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)402

Question Serial No.

3216

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Indicators that the number of groups and programmes organised by the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) will decrease. Will the expenditure be reduced accordingly? If yes, what is the amount of reduction? What are the reasons for the decrease in the number of groups and programmes organised?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : There is no reduction in the output indicators for groups and programmes under the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs) of IFSC operators. IFSCs may, as in previous years, organise more groups and programmes than the output level as required in the FSAs according to service needs. The fact that the number of groups and programmes provided by IFSCs in the 2011-12 estimate is larger than that for 2012-13 is attributable to the fact that the former reflects the actual number of groups and programmes organised, whereas the latter is the required output. As there is no change to the agreed output level, there will not be any reduction in the allocation for IFSCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)403

Question Serial No.

3218

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding support services on sexual violence, will the Administration consider providing funding to subsidise Rain Lily in 2012-13? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) adopts a comprehensive, one-stop service model involving multi-disciplinary assistance in handling sexual violence cases. As an integral part of this service model, SWD has commissioned a non-governmental organisation to operate the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre to provide crisis intervention and support services, including short-term accommodation, to victims of sexual violence and their family members. In view of the smooth service operation, the Administration has no plan to commission another organisation in handling sexual violence cases in 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the work on preserving and strengthening the families, would the Administration please provide related details, expenditure, manpower and its effectiveness?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides a comprehensive network of family and child welfare services such as integrated family service, family and child protective service (including services for child abuse, spouse/cohabitant battering and child custody dispute cases), family support networking teams, clinical psychological service, residential care service for children (including foster care, small group homes and other residential homes for children), day child care service and adoption service, etc. to preserve, strengthen and support the family.

In 2012-13, SWD will enhance the residential child care services by providing 100 additional service places and raising the foster care allowance for foster families. Besides, three new integrated family service centres will be set up in districts with greater service demand, bringing the total number of such centres to 65.

The total provision for family and child welfare services in the 2012-13 estimate is \$2,121.3 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)405

Question Serial No.

3220

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the details in support services and number of residential places provided by the Administration in refuge centres for women (Refuge Centres) in 2012? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Refuge Centres provide temporary accommodation and support services to women and their children affected by domestic violence or family crisis. There are five Refuge Centres with a total of 260 places. In 2012-13, the total estimated allocation for the five Refuge Centres is around \$24 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)406

Question Serial No.

3221

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In the financial year 2012-13, what will be the manpower and related expenditure of the Social Security Field Units (SSFUs)? Also, what will be the expenditure and contents of the training programmes planned by the Social Welfare Department for the social security staff?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2012-13, the total number of posts in various grades in SSFUs will amount to about 1 350 and the estimated expenditure involved is about \$451 million.

Training programmes on professional knowledge and skills such as investigation and verification techniques, legal knowledge, customer service and communication skills will be provided for social security staff in 2012-13 at an estimated expenditure of \$0.5 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)407

Question Serial No.

3222

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many cases were approved under the Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation (CLEIC) in 2010-11 and 2011-12? What were the average, highest and lowest amounts of compensation respectively?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : In 2010-11, the number of new cases approved under CLEIC was 228. The average amount of compensation per case was \$25,716. The highest amount was \$110,260 and the lowest \$222.

In 2011-12, as at the end of January 2012, the number of new cases approved was 175. The average amount of compensation per case was \$24,921. The highest amount was \$79,989 and the lowest \$230.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)408

Question Serial No.

3223

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration consider providing additional community nurse and allied health professional services in district elderly community centres (DECCs) so as to enhance the service quality?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : To achieve the policy objectives of promoting “Active Ageing” and “Ageing in Place”, DECCs provide elders and their carers with diversified services and activities, taking care of their psychological, social and learning needs. Services provided include counselling and referral services, community education, social and recreational activities, promotion of volunteerism, etc. On a need basis, DECCs will collaborate with nursing and allied health professionals in delivering health education programmes to the elders.

Nursing and allied health professional services are provided to frail elders who use our residential care services and the centre-based and home-based community care services. Since the majority of DECC users are not frail elders, we have no plan to provide community nursing and allied health services in DECCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)409

Question Serial No.

3224

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the expenditure on prevention of elder abuse in 2012-13? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need, including victims of elder abuse. Services for the prevention and tackling of elder abuse cases are provided through District Elderly Community Centres, Neighbourhood Elderly Centres, Support Teams for the Elderly, Integrated Family Service Centres, Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre and Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, etc. In 2012-13, the expenditure for the publicity and public education programmes on prevention of domestic violence is around \$5 million. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated for this purpose.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)410

Question Serial No.

3309

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out the respective numbers of medical social workers (MSWs) (including Social Work Assistants, Senior Social Work Assistants, Social Work Officers (SWOs)/Assistant Social Work Officers (ASWOs) and officers at Senior Social Work Officer rank or above) working in psychiatric services in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 in the Social Welfare Department (SWD), the average caseload per MSW and the financial provision by each rank.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Relevant information concerning the psychiatric medical social services (MSS) is as follows –

Year	Actual/Estimated provision (\$ million) ^[Note 1]	Actual/Estimated number of SWO/ ASWO ^[Note 2]	Actual/Estimated average caseload per MSW ^[Note 3]
2010-11	274.8	37 SWOs/ 175 ASWOs	72
2011-12	302.7	51 SWOs/ 192 ASWOs	66 ^[Note 4]
2012-13	322.5	51 SWOs/ 192 ASWOs	64 ^[Note 4]

[Note 1] These figures are the total actual/estimated financial provision for MSS. There is no breakdown by psychiatric MSS and non-psychiatric MSS, or by different ranks of staff.

[Note 2] The MSS units of SWD are staffed by either SWOs or ASWOs.

[Note 3] There is no separate average caseload statistics for SWOs and ASWOs. SWOs also undertake administrative duty in addition to casework.

[Note 4] There is no breakdown of the estimated average caseload per MSW by psychiatric MSWs and non-psychiatric MSWs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)411

Question Serial No.

3310

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list out the respective numbers of medical social workers (MSWs) (including Social Work Assistants, Senior Social Work Assistants, Social Work Officers (SWOs)/Assistant Social Work Officers (ASWOs) and officers at Senior Social Work Officer rank or above) working in non-psychiatric services in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 in the Social Welfare Department (SWD), the average caseload per MSW and the financial provision by each rank.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : Relevant information concerning the non-psychiatric medical social services (MSS) is as follows –

Year	Actual/Estimated provision (\$ million) ^[Note 1]	Actual/Estimated number of SWO/ ASWO ^[Note 2]	Actual/Estimated average caseload per MSW ^[Note 3]
2010-11	274.8	23 SWOs/ 165 ASWOs	62
2011-12	302.7	23 SWOs/ 165 ASWOs	66 ^[Note 4]
2012-13	322.5	23 SWOs/ 165 ASWOs	64 ^[Note 4]

[Note 1] These figures are the total actual/estimated financial provision for MSS. There is no breakdown by psychiatric MSS and non-psychiatric MSS, or by different ranks of staff.

[Note 2] The MSS units of SWD are staffed by either SWOs or ASWOs.

[Note 3] There is no separate average caseload statistics for SWOs and ASWOs. SWOs also undertake administrative duty in addition to casework.

[Note 4] There is no breakdown of the estimated average caseload per MSW by psychiatric MSWs and non-psychiatric MSWs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the provision of disregarded earnings (DE) under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the total amount of income disregarded;
- (b) the total CSSA expenditure reduced after taking into account the recipients' assessable income; and
- (c) the average number of CSSA cases benefiting from the provision of DE?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The statistics on CSSA recipients benefiting from DE in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows ^[Note] –

Year	Total amount of income disregarded (\$ million)	Total CSSA expenditure reduced after taking into account the recipients' assessable income (\$ million)	Average number of CSSA recipients benefiting from DE per month
2009-10	820.7	809.7	37 475
2010-11	824.1	811.2	37 638
2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)	642.7	663.6	34 974

[Note] Except for 2011-12, the numbers presented were numbers as at the end of the respective financial years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)413

Question Serial No.

3312

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) What are the resources that have been allocated by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to help the victims/batterers/children of domestic violence cases from 2009 to 2013 respectively?
- (b) What is the expenditure involved in helping the victims of domestic violence cases rebuild their homes?
- (c) What is the expenditure involved in helping the children transfer to other schools?
- (d) What is the number of children involved?
- (e) What is the time that the victims (including children) of domestic violence need to recover from their trauma?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) SWD provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to combat domestic violence and support victims/batterers/children of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through the Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Service Units, Clinical Psychology Units, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc. SWD also provides Batterer Intervention Programme for batterers with an aim to change their attitudes and stop their abusive behaviours. The allocations for these services in 2009-10 and 2010-11 were \$1,716.1 million and \$1,743.1 million respectively. The revised estimate for 2011-12 and estimate for 2012-13 are \$1,878.5 million and \$2,121.3 million respectively.

(b) to (d) SWD does not capture such statistical information.

(e) The time required for the victims to recover from the trauma varies in each case, depending on a variety of factors, including the severity of the violence, the availability of family and social support, etc.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the number of teachers (including centre heads, officers-in-charge and child care workers) and students of the child care centres (CCCs) in Hong Kong in the 2011/12 school year.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : All CCCs are required to comply with the minimum staff requirements in relation to the number of children under the Child Care Services Regulations (Chapter 243A). Service operators of CCCs have the flexibility to deploy their resources including a group grant provided by the Social Welfare Department to aided full-day standalone CCCs to recruit adequate child care staff to meet service needs. As at mid-September 2011, there were 668 children enrolled in these CCCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) Regarding the provision of subsidised residential care places for the elderly, what is the percentage of these places among all residential care places for the elderly throughout the territory at present? What is the specific number?
- (b) What indicators does the Administration use to assess the service quality of residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs)? How does the Administration assess the service quality standards of existing subvented RCHEs? How does the Administration monitor the use of subventions?
- (c) In addition to providing subventions to RCHEs, what measures will be introduced to facilitate RCHEs to upgrade their service quality?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

- Reply :
- (a) At present, the Administration is providing about 26 000 subsidised residential care places, which is about 35% of all residential care places for the elderly throughout the territory.
 - (b) Under the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) and its Subsidiary Regulation, all RCHEs have to comply with licensing requirements relating to hygiene, sanitation, staffing, building safety, location, design of the premises, structure, facilities and equipment, fire precautions measures and size.

To ensure service quality, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) monitors the service performance of subvented non-governmental organisations (NGOs) through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, SWD assesses and monitors the performance standards of subvented NGOs through their regular reports to SWD and SWD's scheduled and surprise visits to their subvented service units (including subvented RCHEs).

Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, all subvented NGOs are required to submit the Annual Financial Report together with the auditor's review report and the audited financial statement of the whole organisation to SWD. SWD will conduct subvention inspections to monitor subvented NGOs' compliance with the subvention requirements.

- (c) SWD has been implementing various measures to promote service quality. For instance, RCHEs which can meet enhanced service requirements in terms of staffing and spatial standards are welcome to participate in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and offer their places for purchase by the Administration. The enhanced standards apply to the entire home, hence benefiting also the users of non-subsidised places. Among the bought places, there is also a distinction between EA1 and EA2 places. EA1 places are subject to even higher standards, and it is our policy direction to provide more EA1 places. To this end, the Administration plans to upgrade about 600 EA2 places to EA1 and purchase an additional 112 EA1 places in 2012-13. The additional recurrent financial provision is \$25.3 million.

At the same time, SWD has been implementing the Pilot Scheme on Visiting Pharmacist Services for RCHEs since 2010 to enhance the drug management capabilities of RCHEs and their staff. SWD also promulgates guidelines for RCHEs on various topics related to the management of RCHEs and elderly care; provides training for RCHE staff to enhance their knowledge and skills in elderly care; works closely with the Department of Health and Hospital Authority in case referrals, etc. All these measures serve to enhance the quality of RCHEs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 58 of the Budget Speech that \$900 million under the Lotteries Fund shall be allocated to enhance the community support services for elderly people and their carers. What are the details of the item?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

Reply : The Social Welfare Department will seek funding of \$900 million from the Lotteries Fund with a view to improving the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 elderly centres, i.e. 41 district elderly community centres, 118 neighbourhood elderly centres, 51 social centres for the elderly and 40 self-financing centres for the elderly. We will implement the improvement programme in phases over six years starting from 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)472

Question Serial No.

0595

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will set up three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs). What are the funding requirement, specific locations, districts to be served and staffing establishment for setting up the three new IFSCs?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : The annual funding provision for the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be around \$30 million in total. The locations and service boundaries of these three IFSCs will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected growth and profile of the population, etc.

The manpower provision of the new IFSCs will be arranged with reference to the service needs and characteristics of the localities. For IFSCs operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the NGOs concerned have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)473

Question Serial No.

0597

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the estimated expenditure and implementation details of the scheme, as well as the districts identified for implementing the scheme? How will the provision be used (please list out the items of expenditure and estimated provision)? Will resources be earmarked for reviewing the scheme? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : The Administration consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the preliminary proposal of the pilot scheme on community care service (CSS) voucher for the elderly (the scheme) on 13 February 2012. The scheme will adopt a new funding mode, whereby the Administration provides subsidy directly to the service users instead of the service providers. To fully test the funding mode, the scheme will last for four years and be implemented in two phases. Elders who have been assessed to have impairment at moderate level or above may participate in the scheme. They may choose the service provider, the type of service and the service package which best suit their needs. For the first phase of the scheme, we will target elders who have impairment at moderate level. A co-payment and means-test mechanism will be introduced and a single voucher value at \$5,000 per month is proposed, with Government subsidy ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,500. The scheme will be launched in selected districts. Selection of districts will be based on the district profile as well as the readiness of service providers to provide the services. For the first phase, we will invite non-governmental organisations and non-profit organisations (including social enterprises) to participate as they are more experienced in the provision of CCS to elders.

The estimated expenditure required for the scheme, including the review of the scheme, will be determined at a later stage. We will seek one-off funding support from the Lotteries Fund for the scheme and continue with the preparatory work, such as drawing up the implementation details, consulting stakeholders and developing information technology infrastructure, with a view to launching the first phase of the scheme in 2013-14.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)474

Question Serial No.

0603

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide the following information –

- (a) a breakdown of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) payments and the number of recipients, by nature of cases, in 2010-11 and 2011-12;
- (b) a breakdown of the numbers of cases and recipients respectively under the “single parent”, “unemployment” and “low-earnings” categories, by the duration of stay on CSSA, in 2010-11 and 2011-12; and
- (c) a breakdown of the numbers of cases and recipients with employment earnings, by range of earnings, in 2010-11 and 2011-12; and comparing the figures as at the end of 2009 with those as at the end of 2010, a breakdown of the number of “low-earnings” CSSA cases transferred from other categories (including the numbers of cases and recipients)?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : (a) The average numbers of CSSA recipients per month and CSSA expenditure by nature of cases in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Nature of cases	2010-11 (Actual)	
	Average number of CSSA recipients per month	CSSA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	197 704	9,477
Permanent disability	26 482	1,168
Ill health	43 592	1,754
Single parent	86 347	2,942

Nature of cases	2010-11 (Actual)	
	Average number of CSSA recipients per month	CSSA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Low-earnings	49 461	1,069
Unemployment	56 338	1,660
Others	11 111	423
Total	471 035	18,493

Nature of cases	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	
	Average number of CSSA recipients per month	CSSA expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	197 000	10,115
Permanent disability	26 200	1,312
Ill health	42 400	1,959
Single parent	82 000	3,059
Low-earnings	44 000	1,039
Unemployment	50 400	1,631
Others	11 100	463
Total	453 100	19,578

[Note] Expenditure included one additional month of standard rate payment.

- (b) The numbers of cases and recipients under single parent (SP), unemployment (UT) and low-earnings (LE) categories, with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA, in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Table 1 : Number of CSSA cases with eligible members by duration of stay on CSSA and nature of cases

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)			2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)		
	SP cases	UT cases	LE cases	SP cases	UT cases	LE cases
1 or less	2 672	4 003	776	2 278	3 145	544
More than 1 - 2	3 068	3 474	1 039	2 624	2 463	681
More than 2 - 3	2 846	2 687	913	2 929	2 744	875
More than 3 - 4	2 217	1 618	708	2 320	1 855	679

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)			2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)		
	SP cases	UT cases	LE cases	SP cases	UT cases	LE cases
More than 4 - 5	2 325	1 553	846	2 055	1 322	603
More than 5	19 120	11 745	8 620	18 450	11 063	7 428
Total	32 248	25 080	12 902	30 656	22 592	10 810

Table 2 : Number of CSSA recipients involved by duration of stay on CSSA and nature of cases

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)			2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)		
	SP cases	UT cases	LE cases	SP cases	UT cases	LE cases
1 or less	7 589	7 191	3 325	6 672	5 794	2 530
More than 1 - 2	8 353	6 700	4 237	7 255	4 772	2 905
More than 2 - 3	7 586	5 303	3 716	7 874	5 423	3 521
More than 3 - 4	6 094	3 278	3 042	6 111	3 649	2 867
More than 4 - 5	6 280	3 303	3 443	5 510	2 648	2 569
More than 5	47 963	27 094	29 650	45 826	24 512	25 717
Total	83 865	52 869	47 413	79 248	46 798	40 109

- (c) The numbers of CSSA cases and recipients with employment earnings, with breakdown by range of the employment earnings, in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively were as follows –

Table 3 : Numbers of CSSA cases with employment earnings by range of the employment earnings

Employment earnings	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	5 673	5 373
\$1,000 – less than \$2,000	4 499	3 930
\$2,000 – less than \$3,000	4 631	3 110
\$3,000 – less than \$4,000	4 528	4 854
\$4,000 – less than \$5,000	3 647	3 428
\$5,000 – less than \$6,000	3 442	2 325

Employment earnings	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
\$6,000 – less than \$7,000	3 101	2 738
\$7,000 – less than \$8,000	2 021	2 040
\$8,000 – less than \$9,000	1 192	1 500
\$9,000 – less than \$10,000	605	878
\$10,000 or above	1 042	1 011
Total	34 381	31 187

Table 4 : Numbers of CSSA recipients with employment earnings by range of the employment earnings

Employment earnings	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)
Less than \$1,000	6 181	5 790
\$1,000 – less than \$2,000	5 169	4 399
\$2,000 – less than \$3,000	5 290	3 485
\$3,000 – less than \$4,000	5 082	5 439
\$4,000 – less than \$5,000	4 059	3 742
\$5,000 – less than \$6,000	3 819	2 511
\$6,000 – less than \$7,000	3 299	2 884
\$7,000 – less than \$8,000	2 018	2 101
\$8,000 – less than \$9,000	1 047	1 471
\$9,000 – less than \$10,000	451	746
\$10,000 or above	476	532
Total	36 891	33 100

Of the 14 407 low-earnings cases involving 48 318 recipients as at the end of December 2010, 2 507 cases involving 7 993 recipients were originally classified under “other categories” as at the end of December 2009. Details are set out below –

Nature of case as at the end of December 2009	Number of low-earnings cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2010	Number of recipients involved
Old age	382	1 205
Permanent disability	69	243
Ill health	218	733
Single parent	414	1 034
Unemployment	1 312	4 457
Others	112	321
Total	2 507	7 993

Of the 12 319 low-earnings cases involving 40 552 recipients as at the end of December 2011, 1 887 cases involving 5 929 recipients were originally classified under “other categories” as at the end of December 2010. Details are set out below –

Nature of case as at the end of December 2010	Number of low-earnings cases changed from other categories as at the end of December 2011	Number of recipients involved
Old age	347	1 076
Permanent disability	54	154
Ill health	213	695
Single parent	283	736
Unemployment	899	3 001
Others	91	267
Total	1 887	5 929

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)475

Question Serial No.

0604

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The number of places of day care centres/units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) will be reduced from the planned 2 600 to 2 579 in 2011-12 –

- (a) What is the distribution of the reduced places by district, centre or unit?
- (b) What are the reasons for the reduction?
- (c) Whether the Administration has assessed the impact of such reduction on local elders? If yes, please give the details. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : There are 2 600 day care (DC) places in the planned provision in 2011-12 and 2 579 DC places in the revised estimate in 2011-12. The difference of 21 DC places is owing to the change of the estimated provision in the following three districts –

District	Number of places	
	2011-12 (Plan)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)
Kwun Tong	45	0
Sham Shui Po	40	44
Sha Tin	20	40
Total	105	84
Difference	21	

Although the provision of DC places in Kwun Tong was behind schedule, more DC places would be provided in the DEs/DCU of Sham Shui Po and Sha Tin. The Social Welfare Department will continue to monitor the progress of the planned DE in Kwun Tong to ensure that the DC places could be provided as early as possible.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)476

Question Serial No.

0605

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is estimated that there will be an increase of 225 places for day care centres/units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) in 2012-13 –

- (a) What is the distribution of the additional places by district, centre or unit?
- (b) How many additional places will be provided by the new centres and the in-situ expansion of existing centres or units?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : (a) The geographical distribution of the additional day care (DC) places for the elderly which are expected to commence service in 2012-13 is as follows –

District	Number of places
Kwun Tong	100
Yau Tsim Mong	20
Sha Tin	45
Kwai Tsing	60
Total	225

- (b) All these 225 DC places will be created through setting up new DEs/DCUs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)477

Question Serial No.

0606

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the private residential care homes for the elderly participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) –

- (a) What is the distribution of the 512 additional places by district, centre or unit?
- (b) What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : The additional 512 subsidised places under EBPS will be provided throughout the territory. The Social Welfare Department shall determine the exact number of places for each district with regard to the demand for residential care places. The estimated annual expenditure is about \$47 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding monitoring the operation of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs), please provide the specific details of the above task and the expenditure incurred for the relevant activities and programmes in the past year, as well as the work plans and the estimated expenditure for the coming year respectively.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory. ICCMWs, operated by non-governmental organisations, commenced service in October 2010 to provide one-stop and district-based community support services for persons with mental health problems and their family/carers as well as local residents through a wide spectrum of community support services ranging from casework counselling, therapeutic and supportive groups, outreaching services, day training, drop-in services, social and recreational activities, public education programmes to enhance community understanding of mental health and, where necessary, referral of cases to the Hospital Authority (HA) for clinical assessment and psychiatric treatment. To dovetail with the Case Management Programme implemented by HA, these ICCMWs also provide community support services for patients with severe mental illness.

As at the end of December 2011, the ICCMWs had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised by the ICCMWs. The Administration has allocated additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 to strengthen the manpower of the existing ICCMWs to dovetail with HA's Case Management Programme and provide service for more people in need.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding monitoring the implementation of the regularised Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP), please provide details of the said project, including a breakdown of the numbers of home-based child care places and centre-based care group places by the 18 districts and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : Upon the regularisation and extension of the NSCCP to 18 districts, the service operator of each district is required to provide at least 26 home-based child care places and 14 centre-based care group places. Thus, there will be a total of at least 468 home-based child care places and 252 centre-based care group places over the territory. The estimated recurrent allocation for NSCCP in 2012-13 is \$36.3 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)480

Question Serial No.

0764

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As shown in the indicators under this programme, the number of cases served under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme will increase to 752 400 in 2012-13. However, the time for processing a new case by Social Security Field Units (SSFUs) will remain unchanged. Will the Administration provide more resources and manpower to cope with the increase in caseload? If yes, please list out the additional resources and manpower provided. If not, please explain how can the Administration ensure that the time for processing a new case by SSFUs will remain unchanged without additional resources and manpower despite the fact that the number of cases served under the SSA Scheme will be increased.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : The Social Welfare Department is committed to the timely processing of applications for SSA. To cope with the increase in the number of SSA cases, five posts in the Social Security Assistant grade have been created and three additional posts in the same grade will be created in various SSFUs in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively to provide the necessary additional manpower support.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the indicators under this Programme, the cost per place per month for the places of care-and-attention (C&A) homes that provide a continuum of care arising from conversion of self-care (S/C) hostels and homes for the aged (H/A) was higher than that of contract homes over the past two years. However, the estimate for 2012-13 for these two types of homes states otherwise. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : Owing to the enhanced provision of manpower and care support to meet the operational needs in raising the ratio of nursing home places from an average of 50% to 90% in contract homes, in 2012-13 the estimated cost per place per month of contract homes is higher than that of C&A places which were converted from S/C hostel and H/A to provide a continuum of care.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)482

Question Serial No.

0766

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the net increase of 48 posts under this programme in 2012-13, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) a breakdown by divisions, rank and function of the posts to be deleted and created;
- (b) a breakdown by the staffing establishment and strength of staff of different ranks in 2011-12 and 2012-13(estimated);
- (c) a breakdown by rank, function and contract duration of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff employed by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in 2011-12; and
- (d) a breakdown by SWD's expenditure on the three contract service categories, namely "NCSC staff", "agency workers" and "outsourced workers" in 2011-12 and 2012-13(estimated)?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

- Reply :
- (a) The net increase of 48 posts under the Family and Child Welfare Programme involves the creation of 49 posts in the Social Work Officer, Social Work Assistant, Social Security Officer, Social Security Assistant grades and other supporting general grades, offset by the deletion of one time-limited Social Work Officer grade post which is due to lapse upon completion of a project. The new posts are created to set up a new Integrated Family Service Centre to strengthen the support services for individuals and families with welfare needs, plan and implement the welfare assistance programmes under the Community Care Fund initiative and strengthen the support to social workers in the provision of family and child welfare services, etc.
 - (b) Under the Family and Child Welfare Programme, the establishment by the end of 2011-12 and 2012-13 will be 1 789 and 1 837 respectively.

The current strength is about 1 730. Information on the strength in 2012-13 cannot be ascertained.

The grades and ranks of staff under the Family and Child Welfare Programme include the professional grades (i.e. Social Work Officer and Social Work Assistant grades) as well as other departmental/common grades and supporting general grades rendering support services.

- (c) There are 294 full-time NCSC staff^[Note] employed by SWD for all Programmes in 2011-12 (as at 31 December 2011). They are responsible for providing general and clerical support services, customer services, health care services, IT support services, executive support and project management services. Most of the full-time NCSC staff are employed on contracts of not more than one year.
- (d) The amounts paid to full-time NCSC staff^[Note] and “outsourced service providers” for all Programmes in 2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012) are about \$35.1 million and \$20.6 million respectively. For the period in question, SWD has not engaged any agency worker. The estimate for 2012-13 cannot be ascertained as the number of NCSC staff, agency workers and outsourced workers may vary in the light of changing service and operational requirements.

^[Note] “Full-time” employment refers to “continuous contract” as defined under the Employment Ordinance. According to the Employment Ordinance, an employee who works continuously for the same employer for four weeks or more, with at least 18 hours in each week, is regarded as working under a continuous contract.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)483

Question Serial No.

0768

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme under this Programme, would the Administration please provide the following information –

- (a) the age distribution of the recipients with breakdown by District Council district; and
- (b) the number of recipients and the number of households with breakdown by District Council district?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : (a) The numbers of CSSA recipients by geographical district (with breakdown by age group) as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Geographical district [Note 1]	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 or above	Total
Central & Western	106	170	214	196	41	53	95	128	170	239	185	222	2 349	4 168
Eastern	569	1 022	1 418	1 546	301	237	400	795	1 020	1 138	1 178	1 097	10 298	21 019
Islands	374	812	1 268	1 162	168	98	242	472	624	662	536	452	2 175	9 045
Kowloon City	743	975	1 152	1 178	258	277	415	701	873	920	902	937	8 588	17 919
Kwai Tsing	1 263	2 694	3 790	4 219	815	513	902	1 739	2 478	2 900	2 702	2 657	18 557	45 229
Kwun Tong	1 678	3 617	4 848	5 465	1 149	596	1 028	2 238	3 158	3 667	3 331	3 221	28 390	62 386
North	866	1 587	2 104	2 177	472	313	545	880	1 211	1 489	1 377	1 298	9 192	23 511
Sai Kung	347	799	1 592	1 908	460	237	333	588	960	1 193	1 138	905	5 476	15 936
Sha Tin	794	1 736	2 462	2 870	597	431	665	1 166	1 588	1 894	2 002	1 728	12 012	29 945
Sham Shui Po	1 265	2 053	2 578	2 741	588	416	711	1 347	1 885	2 271	2 247	2 222	16 306	36 630

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 or above	Total
Southern	248	444	729	778	201	175	340	453	648	726	662	600	6 194	12 198
Tai Po	419	786	1 049	1 204	299	209	332	539	658	849	817	814	7 016	14 991
Tsuen Wan	425	744	1 008	1 043	215	149	250	498	584	671	638	575	5 914	12 714
Tuen Mun	1 010	1 741	2 501	2 447	507	472	825	1 346	1 768	1 949	2 081	2 166	13 736	32 549
Wan Chai	83	121	101	65	18	25	56	82	88	84	107	127	1 281	2 238
Wong Tai Sin	835	1 740	2 677	3 307	643	335	543	1 117	1 726	2 322	2 242	2 075	15 991	35 553
Yau Tsim Mong	706	839	962	745	176	238	440	720	748	807	850	931	5 660	13 822
Yuen Long	1 897	3 351	5 213	5 476	1 080	751	1 294	2 217	3 031	3 556	3 243	2 839	15 056	49 004
Total ^[Note 2]	13 628	25 231	35 666	38 527	7 988	5 525	9 416	17 026	23 218	27 337	26 238	24 866	184 191	438 857

(b) The numbers of CSSA cases and recipients by geographical district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	No. of CSSA cases	No. of CSSA recipients
Central & Western	3 449	4 168
Eastern	13 913	21 019
Islands	4 469	9 045
Kowloon City	12 553	17 919
Kwai Tsing	26 828	45 229
Kwun Tong	36 746	62 386
North	14 398	23 511
Sai Kung	9 097	15 936
Sha Tin	17 559	29 945
Sham Shui Po	24 681	36 630
Southern	8 524	12 198
Tai Po	9 681	14 991
Tsuen Wan	8 176	12 714
Tuen Mun	21 354	32 549
Wan Chai	1 964	2 238

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	No. of CSSA cases	No. of CSSA recipients
Wong Tai Sin	21 849	35 553
Yau Tsim Mong	10 657	13 822
Yuen Long	27 495	49 004
Total ^[Note 2]	273 393	438 857

[Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the implementation of the pilot Bought Place Scheme (BPS) for private residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13”, would the Administration please provide the following information –

- (a) the breakdown of the types of places to be provided by District Council district; and
- (b) the breakdown of the number of places to be provided by District Council district?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : (a) & (b) With a view to upgrading the service standard of private RCHDs, increasing the supply of subsidised residential care places and helping the market develop more service options for persons with disabilities, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has launched a four-year pilot BPS for private RCHDs since October 2010. SWD aims to purchase around 300 places by phases during the pilot period. Under the pilot BPS, places are offered to applicants waitlisting for long stay care home or hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons having regard to the fact that existing private RCHDs already possess the experience, skill and knowledge in taking care of persons with mental illness and intellectual disabilities. As at the end of January 2012, SWD had purchased 60 BPS places from two private RCHDs, with the distribution of places by district as follows –

District	Number of BPS places
Kowloon City	40
Yuen Long	20
Total	60

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 57 of the Budget Speech that the Administration will “increase the recurrent funding for Dementia Supplement by \$137 million. This will allow eligible residential care homes and day care centres or units for the elderly to have more resources for engaging professional staff (including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers) or procuring related professional services”. In this connection, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What are the details of the plan?
- (b) What are the respective numbers of residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres or units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) eligible to apply for the funding?
- (c) What is the maximum amount of provision to be allocated to each of these RCHEs and DEs/DCUs?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : (a) To enhance the support for demented elders in subsidised RCHEs and DEs/DCUs, an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS) in 2012-13. The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

The breakdown of the additional allocation of DS is as follows –

Type of service units	Additional allocation (\$ million)
Subvented RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)	127.5
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	9.7

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in EBPS and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

With additional funding, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary.

- (b) It is estimated that DS will be allocated to a total of about 270 RCHEs and about 60 DEs/DCUs in 2012-13.
- (c) Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation of DS for each qualified case in 2012-13 is as follows –

Type of service units	Allocation of DS for each qualified case in 2012-13 (\$)
Subvented RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	about 40,000
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	about 24,000

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the provision of training for non-professional and professional staff serving demented elders, what are the details of the programme? What is the expenditure involved? How many people have participated in the training programme in the past three years respectively? How many of them are still engaging in relevant work after receiving the training?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : The training programmes conducted in 2011-12 for non-professional and professional staff serving demented elders covered understanding and managing the medical, psychological and care needs of the demented elders, common assessment tools, therapeutic approaches, legal issues relating to the care of the demented elders as well as support services for the carers. The training programmes incurred a total expenditure of \$0.17 million.

In the past three years, the numbers of non-professional staff and professional staff who attended the training programmes were as follows –

	No. of non-professional staff	No. of professional staff
2009-10	124	115
2010-11	169	116
2011-12	179	113

The training programmes were provided for the non-professional and professional staff working in either community support services or residential care services for elders. We do not have information on the participants' employment situation after they have attended the training programmes.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)487

Question Serial No.

0352

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the conversion of subsidised self-care (S/C) hostels and homes for the aged (H/A) places into subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) homes places, how many subsidised S/C and H/A places had been converted into subsidised C&A places by the Administration in the past three years? Currently, how many subsidised S/C and H/A places are pending conversion in the territory? What is the district distribution of these places?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : Under the Conversion Programme, a total of 10 700 S/C hostels / H/A places and C&A home places without a continuum of care will be converted into 6 200 C&A places providing a continuum of care. As at the end of December 2011, 69 subvented homes had participated in the Conversion Programme to convert 9 771 places into 5 496 places providing a continuum of care. The remaining 900 places which have yet to be included in the Conversion Programme are located in the Islands, Eastern, Southern, Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin and Kwai Tsing districts.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)488

Question Serial No.

0353

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the number of care-and-attention home and nursing home places to be purchased from residential care homes for the elderly by the Administration in each of the next three years? What are the estimated expenditures in the respective years?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : In the coming three years, the total number of additional residential care places for the elderly to be purchased under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) is 512 and that under the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme (NHPPS) is 229. The estimated annual expenditure for EBPS is about \$47 million and that for NHPPS is \$33.4 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that an additional neighbourhood elderly centre (NEC) would be set up in 2012-13. What is the service quota of the centre? What is the expenditure involved? Where is the exact location of the centre?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : The services provided by the NECs are open to all members of the public aged 60 or above and there is no limit on the number of members served. In 2012-13, one new NEC will be set up at the Public Rental Housing Development at Site 1A in Kai Tak Development, Kowloon City District. The NEC will commence service in early 2013 and the estimated annual expenditure is \$2 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)490

Question Serial No.

0516

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the enhancement of the services of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs), would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What was the number of service users of each of the 24 ICCMWs per month in 2011? What are the numbers of additional cases and cases that required follow-up actions per month respectively?
- (b) Of the 24 ICCMWs, how many are taking temporary accommodation? How many of them will be moved to their permanent accommodation in each of the next three years?
- (c) What are the numbers of staff employed by each of these ICCMWs and their posts? What are the numbers of staff and the posts being recruited by each of these ICCMWs?
- (d) What is the number of cases served by each of the workers in these ICCMWs?
- (e) What is the operating expenditure of each of these ICCMWs per annum?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : (a) & (d) The ICCMWs have commenced service at 24 service points in the territory since October 2010. As at the end of December 2011, they had conducted over 73 100 outreaching visits and provided casework services to some 15 300 ex-mentally ill persons and persons with suspected mental health problems. Around 171 000 persons had participated in 2 700 groups and public programmes organised by the ICCMWs.

- (b) As at the end of January 2012, 13 ICCMWs had secured permanent accommodation while two others had identified permanent sites pending local consultation. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments in identifying suitable

premises in new development or redevelopment projects, vacant government properties, school premises and public housing units, etc. SWD will also consider funding the rental expenses incurred for setting up temporary accommodation for use as ICCMWs at suitable commercial premises, and approval has already been given to four such applications.

- (c) & (e) In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up ICCMWs. Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the ICCMWs. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department has stated that the number of non-directorate posts will be increased by 48 to 5 391 posts as at 31 March 2013. Please inform this Committee of the nature of work, ranks and salaries of these new posts.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : The estimated annual expenditure involved in the net increase of 48 posts is \$19.4 million. Details of the 48 posts are as follows –

Programme	Number and type(s) of posts	Estimated annual expenditure/(saving) involved in net creation/(deletion) of posts (\$ million)	Purpose for post creation/deletion
(1) Family and Child Welfare	Net increase of 48 posts including creation of 49 posts in the Social Work Officer, Social Work Assistant, Social Security Officer, Social Security Assistant grades and supporting general grades, offset by deletion of one time-limited Social Work Officer grade post.	14.3 ^[Note] [Note] \$3.4 million of which is to be reimbursed by the Community Car/e Fund.	(i) To set up a new Integrated Family Service Centre to strengthen the support services for individuals and families with welfare needs; (ii) To plan and implement the welfare assistance programmes under the Community Care Fund initiative; and (iii) To strengthen the

Programme	Number and type(s) of posts	Estimated annual expenditure/(saving) involved in net creation/(deletion) of posts (\$ million)	Purpose for post creation/deletion
			support to social workers in the provision of family and child welfare services.
(2) Social Security	Net increase of 24 posts including creation of 27 posts in the Social Security Officer, Social Security Assistant grades and supporting general grades, offset by deletion of three supporting general grades posts.	9.0	<p>(i) To make preparation for a new “Guangdong Scheme” under the Social Security Allowance Scheme to provide Old Age Allowance for eligible Hong Kong elders who choose to reside in Guangdong;</p> <p>(ii) To introduce the Residential Care Supplement under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme for recipients aged 60 or above, and recipients with disabilities or in ill-health regardless of age, who occupy non-subsidised residential care places; and</p> <p>(iii) To strengthen the manpower support in the provision of social security services, including splitting a large social security field unit into two units and enhancing the support in social</p>

Programme	Number and type(s) of posts	Estimated annual expenditure/(saving) involved in net creation/(deletion) of posts (\$ million)	Purpose for post creation/deletion
			security field units and centralised teams.
(3) Services for Elders	Net increase of seven posts in the Social Work Officer, Social Work Assistant grades and supporting general grades.	2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To plan for a pilot scheme on community care service vouchers for the elderly; (ii) To enhance the management of contract residential care homes for the elderly; and (iii) To strengthen the manpower support for the provision of residential care services.
(4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services	Net decrease of 35 posts including creation of five posts in the Architect, Structural Engineer, Clerk of Works, Survey Officer grades and supporting general grades, offset by deletion of 40 posts in the Social Work Officer, Social Work Assistant, Welfare Worker, Workshop Instructor, Cook, Hostel Manager/ Manageress, Motor Driver, Property Attendant, Ward Attendant grades and supporting general grades.	(7.6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To strengthen the architectural manpower support to implement new works projects of development, redevelopment, major conversion or extension of welfare premises for meeting the demand of rehabilitation services; (ii) To strengthen the manpower support for processing applications for the Lotteries Fund; and (iii) To delete posts

Programme	Number and type(s) of posts	Estimated annual expenditure/(saving) involved in net creation/(deletion) of posts (\$ million)	Purpose for post creation/deletion
			upon hiving-off of the two departmental rehabilitation hostels for operation by non-governmental organisations and upon completion of time-limited projects.
(5) Services for Offenders	Net increase of four posts in the Registered Nurse grade.	1.3	To strengthen manpower provision for nursing care in residential services for offenders.

Signature _____
 Name in block letters Patrick T K Nip
 Post Title Director of Social Welfare
 Date 2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 58 of the Budget Speech that \$900 million shall be allocated under the Lotteries Fund to improve the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 district elderly community centres (DECCs), neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs) and social centres for the elderly (SEs) across the territory. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What is the detailed proposal of this programme? Will each of the centres be allocated the same amount of funding?
- (b) What is the timetable of the proposed improvement works? Will the proposed improvement works be implemented in phases?
- (c) How many job opportunities for the construction industry will be created by the proposed improvement works?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will seek funding of \$900 million from the Lotteries Fund with a view to improving the physical setting and facilities of as many as 250 elderly centres, i.e. 41 district elderly community centres, 118 neighbourhood elderly centres, 51 social centres for the elderly and 40 self-financing centres for the elderly. The funding to be allocated to each centre will depend on the type and actual size of the centre. We will implement the improvement programme in phases over six years starting from 2012-13. As the non-governmental organisations operating these 250 centres have the flexibility of employing suitable contractors/workers to implement the programme, SWD does not have information on the number of jobs to be created in the construction industry.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in paragraph 178 of the 2012-13 Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary has proposed to increase recurrent funding by \$36 million for the provision of an additional 500 places for the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) and some 180 day care places. In this connection, will the Administration provide details of the average waiting time of the elderly in queue for EHCCS places and day care places, and of the number of elders who died during the time waiting for the places? Will the Administration consider further increasing the provision of places for day care and the EHCCS. If yes, please provide the details of the total estimated increase in recurrent funding. If not, please specify the difficulties for not doing so.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : As at the end of January 2012, the average waiting time for EHCCS and day care places was about three months and nine months respectively. In 2011, 48 elders passed away during the time waiting for EHCCS and day care places.

The Administration has allocated funding to substantially increase EHCCS places in 2011-12 (1 500 places) and will continue to do so in 2012-13 (500 places). The number of new places is larger than the number of elders currently waiting for EHCCS (about 400). The Administration will also continue to allocate additional resources for new day care places. In 2012-13, 225 new day care places are expected to commence service.

The Administration will continue to keep in view the demand for EHCCS and day care service and increase the provision to meet the service needs of the elders as appropriate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)494

Question Serial No.

0899

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in paragraph 178 of the 2012-13 Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary stated that the Government plans for a pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly. Under the scheme, subsidy will be provided directly to eligible elders for them to choose the services they need. In this connection, will the Administration provide details of the pilot scheme, the timetable for implementation; how the eligibility of the elders is defined and how much subsidy each eligible elderly would be provided? Also, please provide details of the services that will be covered under the pilot scheme and the total estimated cost on manpower and resources the pilot scheme would incur?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : The Administration consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the preliminary proposal of the pilot scheme on community care service (CCS) voucher for the elderly (the scheme) on 13 February 2012. The scheme will adopt a new funding mode, whereby the Administration provides subsidy directly to the service users instead of the service providers. To fully test the funding mode, the scheme will last for four years and be implemented in two phases. Elders who have been assessed to have impairment at moderate level or above may participate in the scheme. They may choose the service provider, the type of service and the service package which best suit their needs. For the first phase of the scheme, we will target elders who have impairment at moderate level. A co-payment and means-test mechanism will be introduced and a single voucher value at \$5,000 per month is proposed, with Government subsidy ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,500. The scheme will be launched in selected districts. Selection of districts will be based on the district profile as well as the readiness of service providers to provide the services. For the first phase, we will invite non-governmental organisations and non-profit organisations (including social enterprises) to participate as they are more experienced in the provision of CCS to elders.

The estimated expenditure required for the scheme will be determined at a later stage. We will seek one-off funding support from the Lotteries Fund for the scheme and continue with the preparatory work, such as drawing up the implementation details, consulting stakeholders and developing information technology infrastructure with a view to launching the first phase of the scheme in 2013-14.

To deliver the scheme, three time-limited civil service posts at an estimated expenditure of \$3.3 million will be created.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)495

Question Serial No.

0900

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in paragraph 179 of the 2012-13 Budget Speech, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream from 2011-12 to 2014-15. In this connection, will the Administration provide details of number of elders and the average time for elders queuing for the places, and the number of elders who passed away while waiting for the places? Will the Administration inform this Committee of the amount of the waiting time the elders in queue for the places will be shortened with the additional provision of places in the coming four years, and of how the effectiveness of the proposed additional subsidised residential care places is justified if the increase is out-paced by the number of elders who died each year while waiting for the places? In light of this, on top of the established measures, what alternative measures the Administration has considered to address the shortage of subsidised residential care places?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : As at the end of December 2011, the number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised residential care services (RCS) and the average waiting time were as follows –

Type of subsidised RCS places	As at the end of December 2011	
	Number of applicants on the waiting list	Average Waiting Time ^[Note 1] (in months)
Care-and-attention (C&A) places in subvented/contract homes	21 283 ^[Note 2]	34
C&A places under Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)		8
Nursing Home (NH) places ^[Note 3]	6 575	37

[Note 1] Average waiting time for admitted cases in the past three months. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

[Note 2] Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or EBPS homes. The Social Welfare Department only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole.

[Note 3] Including subsidised NH places provided by subvented NHs, self-financing NHs under the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme and contract homes.

In 2011, among the 9 885 elders waitlisted for subsidised NH places and 33 067 elders waitlisted for subsidised C&A places, 1 958 and 3 189 elders passed away while waiting for subsidised NH and C&A places respectively.

The additional places will help ease the pressure on waiting time. However, as the waiting time for subsidised RCS places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes, whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home, the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional provision of subsidised RCS places.

We will continue to increase the provision of subsidised RCS places to meet the demand.

It has to be noted that elders waiting for subsidised RCS places can also receive community care services, including home-based and centre-based services. We will enhance the community care services to the elders waiting for subsidised RCS places to help them age at home.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)496

Question Serial No.

0451

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the implementation of the Cyber Youth Outreaching Projects, what are the manpower input and provision for 2011-12? What resources are expected to be allocated in 2012-13? Has any evaluation on the effectiveness of the projects been conducted? If yes, please give the details.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned three non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to each launch a pilot cyber youth outreaching project with funding support from the Lotteries Fund. Each pilot project has been allocated a grant of \$5.2 million for the implementation of the project for three years with effect from August 2011. The NGOs are given the flexibility to adjust the manpower and other related costs throughout the implementation period.

SWD has commissioned the Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention of the University of Hong Kong to conduct an evaluative study to assess the feasibility, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the three pilot projects, and to make recommendations on the way forward. The study will be completed by the end of 2014.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to monitor the operation of integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) throughout the territory to provide one-stop district-based community support services for ex-mentally ill persons. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the manpower and resources provision in 2011-12, estimated manpower and resources provision in 2012-13, and any specific measure to enhance the functions of ICCMWs?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply : In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory for the provision of district-based and one-stop community mental health support services. Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management Programme of the Hospital Authority (HA) for patients with severe mental illness and provide services for more people in need. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs. To further enhance the functions of ICCMWs, SWD will continue to review and refine the operation of ICCMWs in collaboration with stakeholders, including HA, ICCMW operators and other related government departments, through the existing communication platforms set up at central and district levels since 2011.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the preparation for introduction of the Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) to provide subsidies for private residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) to carry out improvement works, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the estimated expenditure involved, the details of subsidies and vetting procedures? Does the Administration have any information on the number of RCHDs which currently fail to meet the licensing requirements in respect of building and fire safety? Is there any short-term measure to help them improve their facilities?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has earmarked \$39 million under the Lotteries Fund to implement the FAS which was introduced in December 2011 to provide subsidies for private RCHDs to carry out improvement works for meeting the licensing requirements in respect of building and fire safety.

To be eligible for the FAS, the private RCHD should be known to SWD prior to the commencement of the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (the Ordinance) on 18 November 2011, and the operator of the private RCHD would undertake to continue operation for at least two years after receiving the grant of FAS. The maximum grant allocated to each private RCHD is 60% of the recognised cost of the improvement works within the scope of works related to building and fire safety requirements.

There were 81 private RCHDs known to SWD prior to the commencement of the Ordinance. To allow time for individual RCHDs to make preparation for their licensing applications and undertake the necessary premises-related

improvement works in building and fire safety, there has been a grace period of 18 months starting from the commencement of the Ordinance.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)499

Question Serial No.

0454

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the implementation of the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Services for Persons with Severe Disabilities (the Pilot Scheme) to provide severely disabled persons with home-based support services, what is the estimated provision to be allocated to the Pilot Scheme by the Administration in 2012-13 and how will the provision be used in details? When will the effectiveness of the Pilot Scheme be evaluated? Will the Administration consider extending the services to persons with other levels of disabilities? If yes, please give the details. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has earmarked \$163 million under the Lotteries Fund to implement the Pilot Scheme for three years. The Pilot Scheme, which has commenced service since March 2011, provides home-based support services (i.e. personal care and escort service, occupational therapist/physiotherapist rehabilitation training service and nursing care service) for persons with severe disabilities who are living in Kwun Tong District and Tuen Mun District and are on the waiting lists for subvented residential care services. The Pilot Scheme has been extended to Wong Tai Sin District and Kwai Tsing District since September 2011 in view of the demand for service.

While SWD will refine the operational details from time to time in light of experience, it will conduct an interim and a final review of the Pilot Scheme

after it has been in operation for 18 months and 30 months respectively to

assess its mode of operation and service delivery, scope of target service users, and overall effectiveness.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the initiatives to be implemented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in 2012-13 –

- (a) With respect to the overseeing of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) of residential care homes and day care centres for the elderly (DEs), what will be done to ensure that these elderly service organisations have adequate manpower to meet their daily needs? Will additional resources be allocated to help these organisations enhance their management?
- (b) In the financial year 2011-12, a number of accidents occurred due to shortage of manpower in these organisations. Will the Administration consider the need to review the mechanism for overseeing these organisations? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply : (a) SWD has obtained additional resources of \$344 million from the Lotteries Fund for allocation to the welfare NGOs concerned for a further period of three years from 2012-13 to 2014-15 to enable them to offer more competitive salaries for the recruitment and retention of paramedical staff or for the hiring of paramedical services.

SWD has also collaborated with the Hospital Authority to organise the 2-year Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector since 2006. A total of ten training classes has been organised, providing a total of 1 150 training places. The training programme is fully subsidised by the Government. The trainees are required to sign an undertaking to work in the welfare sector for two consecutive years upon graduation. Two more courses will be organised, bringing the total number of graduates to about 1 500.

To alleviate the shortage of allied health professionals in the welfare sector, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University has commenced the two-year Master in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy programmes in January 2012, providing a total of about 60 training places (about 30 each), and the graduates are expected to join the job market in early 2014. SWD has implemented a training sponsorship scheme at the same time to provide funding support for NGOs to sponsor the tuition fees of students enrolled in these programmes to encourage them to join the welfare sector upon graduation. Students are required to serve at the relevant NGOs for no less than two years upon graduation.

- (b) SWD is the licensing authority for residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) under the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) (the Ordinance) and its subsidiary legislation, which sets out, among others, the minimum statutory staffing requirements for RCHEs. Apart from regulating RCHEs through the above-mentioned Ordinance, SWD has issued the Code of Practice for Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) and guidelines, and provided training for RCHE staff from time to time with a view to building up their capacity for better management and delivery of quality services.

To ensure service quality, SWD monitors the service performance of subvented NGOs through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, SWD assesses and monitors the performance standards of subvented NGOs through their regular reports to SWD and SWD's scheduled and surprise visits to their subvented service units including RCHEs and DEs.

SWD will continue to monitor the service units through relevant legislation as appropriate as well as under the SPMS to ensure service quality.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated allocation for Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2012-13? Is there any variation when compared with that in the previous year? As shown in the Estimate, the actual numbers of groups and programmes organised by IFSCs in the past two years were higher than those originally estimated. Why does the Administration still insist the number of such services run by the government sector and the subvented sector be reduced to 4 760 and 2 129 respectively? Have IFSCs received less allocation for organising groups and programmes as a result?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated allocation for IFSCs in 2012-13 is \$818.1 million. As compared with the 2011-12 revised estimate of \$729.3 million, the provision will increase by 12.2%.

The estimated number of groups and programmes provided by IFSCs in 2011-12 is a projection based on the actual number of groups and programmes organised in the first two quarters of 2011-12, whereas the figure for 2012-13 is the aggregate of the output indicators as stipulated in the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs). IFSCs may, as in previous years, organise more groups and programmes than the output level as required in the FSAs according to service needs. The estimated number therefore does not reflect the actual number of groups and programmes to be provided. As there is no change to the agreed output level, there will not be any reduction in the allocation for IFSCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) While it is planned to set up three additional Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2012-13, the estimated numbers of cases served by the government sector and the subvented sector are 56 569 and 27 212 respectively (i.e. 83 781 in total), representing a reduction as compared with the 84 057 cases in the previous year. What are the reasons?

(b) In which districts will the three planned IFSCs be set up in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : (a) The number of cases to be served by IFSCs operated by the Social Welfare Department and non-governmental organisations is estimated with reference to the latest figures available. For the 2011-12 revised estimate, the figures are calculated based on the actual number of active cases brought forward from 2010-11 and new/reactivated cases handled in the first two quarters of 2011-12. For the 2012-13 estimate, the case numbers are projected based on the number of cases handled in the first two quarters of 2011-12. The different calculation bases account for the increase/reduction in the number of intensive counselling/brief counselling/supportive casework cases served by IFSCs run by the government sector and the subvented sector.

(b) The locations of the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected growth and profile of the population, etc.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)503

Question Serial No.

1532

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding occasional child care service (OCCS), would the Administration please provide information, with a breakdown by 18 districts, on the number of places provided in the previous three years (2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12), the estimated number of places to be provided in 2012-13, and the number of children waitlisting for such places? What is the estimated expenditure on OCCS in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The number of OCCS places in each of the 11 administrative districts of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) from 2009-10 to 2012-13 is provided in the table below –

SWD District	Number of OCCS places				
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (April to August 2011)	2011-12 (September 2011 to March 2012) ^[Note]	2012-13
Central/Western/ Southern & Islands	46	46	46	33	33
Eastern/Wan Chai	36	36	36	28	28
Kowloon City/ Yau Tsim Mong	57	57	57	44	44
Kwun Tong	47	47	47	40	40
Sha Tin	35	35	35	26	26
Sham Shui Po	33	33	33	25	25

SWD District	Number of OCCS places				
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (April to August 2011)	2011-12 (September 2011 to March 2012) ^[Note]	2012-13
Tai Po/North	49	49	49	35	35
Tsuen Wan/ Kwai Tsing	65	65	65	49	49
Tuen Mun	38	38	38	28	28
Wong Tai Sin/ Sai Kung	54	54	54	46	46
Yuen Long	34	34	34	29	29
Total	494	494	494	383	383

[Note] To optimise the use of resources, SWD reviewed OCCS in September 2011. The number of service places was reduced in view of the low utilisation rate of the service (71% between April and September 2011) following the implementation of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project. Resources in addition to savings from the reduction of service places were provided to the service operators to conduct family support activities for parents and carers in OCCS service unit to promote the proper care of children and the message of “not leaving children alone at home”.

The provision of the service can meet the service demand. The estimated recurrent provision for OCCS in 2012-13 is \$17.9 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) was regularised and extended to cover all 18 districts in 2011, how many places were provided in each of the 18 districts as at the end of 2011? What is the allocation for this purpose in 2012-13? How many places will be provided in each district in 2012-13? How many organisations will participate in providing such service?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Upon the regularisation and extension of NSCCP to 18 districts, the service operator of each district is required to provide at least 40 places, consisting of 26 home-based child care places and 14 centre-based care group places. Thus, there will be a total of at least 468 home-based child care places and 252 centre-based care group places over the territory. The service operators have the flexibility to increase the number of home-based child care places on top of the minimum requirement set in order to meet the service demand. The estimated recurrent allocation for NSCCP in 2012-13 is \$36.3 million. At present, 15 NGOs (some serve more than one district) are providing the service.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many cases were handled under the Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence (VSP) in 2011? What is the estimated number of cases to be handled in 2012-13? Are there any new measures to strengthen the support services?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2011, VSP served 601 service users. The estimated number of service users will be about 800 in 2012-13. We will continue to promote the service in the community, enhance coordination with other service stakeholders including the Police, school personnel, other government departments and service organisations, as well as mobilise more volunteers for service enhancement.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)506

Question Serial No.

1535

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many persons were served under the short-term food assistance service in 2011? What is the estimated expenditure on the service in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2011, the total number of persons served by the five short-term food assistance service projects (the Projects) was 30 980. The estimated expenditure for the Projects in 2012-13 is \$57.5 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the social security, please provide the numbers of cases for the 65-year-olds or above who received Social Security Allowance (SSA) and Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) over the past three years, and the details of expenditures involved in each year –

Year 2009-10

Item	Age	Number of cases			Total amount involved (\$)
		65-69	70-74	75 or above	
SSA	Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA)				
	Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA)				
	Higher Disability Allowance (HDA)				
	Normal Disability Allowance (NDA)				
CSSA	Able-bodied cases				
	Cases with 50% Disability				
	Cases with 100% Disability				
	Cases requiring constant attendance (CA)				
	Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) Scheme				

Year 2010-11

Item		Age	Number of cases			Total amount involved (\$)
			65-69	70-74	75 or above	
SSA	HOAA					
	NOAA					
	HDA					
	NDA					
CSSA	Able-bodied cases					
	Cases with 50% Disability					
	Cases with 100% Disability					
	CA					
	PCSSA Scheme					

Year 2011-12 (up to the latest month)

Item		Age	Number of cases			Total amount involved (\$)
			65-69	70-74	75 or above	
SSA	HOAA					
	NOAA					
	HDA					
	NDA					
CSSA	Able-bodied cases					
	Cases with 50% Disability					
	Cases with 100% Disability					
	CA					
	PCSSA Scheme					

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The numbers of SSA and CSSA recipients aged 65 or above and the corresponding expenditures in the past three years were as follows –

		2009-10			
		Number of recipients (as at the end of March 2010)			Expenditure ^[Note 1] (\$ million)
		Aged 65-69	Aged 70-74	Aged 75 or above	
SSA	HOAA	-	157 139	270 823	5,429.1
	NOAA	69 980	-	-	891.0
	HDA	967	1 589	9 202	380.5
	NDA	7 212	8 681	29 710	754.7
CSSA [Note 2]	Able-bodied/ 50% disabled	23 012	28 299	57 466	7,739.9
	100% disabled	4 050	5 422	27 013	
	Requiring CA	870	1 634	12 729	

		2010-11			
		Number of recipients (as at the end of March 2011)			Expenditure ^[Note 1] (\$ million)
		Aged 65-69	Aged 70-74	Aged 75 or above	
SSA	HOAA	-	154 990	282 012	5,551.6
	NOAA	71 068	-	-	897.3
	HDA	969	1 563	9 823	399.0
	NDA	7 615	8 319	30 070	749.2
CSSA [Note 2]	Able-bodied/ 50% disabled	22 104	27 071	57 138	7,626.8
	100% disabled	4 219	5 296	27 633	
	Requiring CA	915	1 689	13 005	

		2011-12			
		Number of recipients (as at the end of January 2012)			Expenditure ^[Note 1] (\$ million)
		Aged 65-69	Aged 70-74	Aged 75 or above	
SSA	HOAA	-	151 270	293 808	5,948.0
	NOAA	74 494	-	-	991.0
	HDA	1 081	1 469	10 494	448.0
	NDA	8 371	8 019	30 863	801.0
CSSA [Note 2]	Able-bodied/ 50% disabled	21 949	25 540	57 295	8,110.0
	100% disabled	4 539	5 057	27 863	
	Requiring CA	952	1 650	13 245	

[Note 1] Expenditures included the payment of one additional month of standard rate payment to CSSA recipients and one additional month of allowances to SSA recipients in the respective years.

[Note 2] Expenditure breakdowns by health condition were not available.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stipulates that children under the age of 18 cannot apply for the Comprehensive Social Security Allowance (CSSA) on their own. To be eligible for CSSA, they must be living with a guardian and if the guardian is in financial hardship, then they can apply together on a household basis. In this connection, would the Administration please provide the number of cases of new applications made by children under the age of 18 by the above means, as well as the numbers of such cases staying on CSSA over the past three financial years, and the expenditures involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : We do not have information on number of new applications made by children under the age 18 who are living with their guardians; or the expenditure involved. Instead, the numbers of CSSA cases in the past three years with recipients aged less than 18 who were not living with their parents were as follows –

Year	Number of CSSA cases
2009-10 (as at the end of March 2010)	7 702
2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	7 822
2011-12 (as at the end of January 2012)	7 716

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the estimated numbers of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases under different categories (including old age, disability, ill health, single-parent family, low-earnings, unemployment and others) and the government expenditure in 2012-13? What is the difference as compared with that of the past two years? Please provide the information in table form.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The average numbers of CSSA cases and the expenditures by case nature in 2010-11 were as follows –

Case nature	2010-11 (Actual)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	148 928	9,477
Permanent disability	17 788	1,168
Ill health	23 772	1,754
Single parent	33 354	2,942
Low-earnings	13 425	1,069
Unemployment	26 591	1,660
Others	6 585	423
Total	270 443	18,493

The estimated average numbers of CSSA cases and expenditures by case nature in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as follows –

Case nature	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	149 400	10,115
Permanent disability	18 100	1,312
Ill health	23 800	1,959
Single parent	32 100	3,059
Low-earnings	12 000	1,039
Unemployment	24 400	1,631
Others	6 600	463
Total	266 400	19,578

Case nature	2012-13 (Estimate)	
	Average number of cases per month	Expenditure (\$ million) ^[Note]
Old age	150 800	10,799
Permanent disability	18 500	1,396
Ill health	24 300	2,101
Single parent	31 900	3,099
Low-earnings	11 800	1,040
Unemployment	24 200	1,650
Others	7 000	497
Total	268 500	20,582

^[Note] Expenditure included one additional month of standard rate payment in each of the years. The additional payment for 2012-13 is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee. Individual figures may not add up to the total due to rounding effect.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)510

Question Serial No.

1539

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department will make preparation of a new “Guangdong (GD) Scheme”. What are the work arrangements and time schedule in launching the Scheme? How many elderly people are expected to participate in the Scheme? In this respect, what is the provision in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The Administration is drawing up the details of the GD Scheme and aims at developing more concrete plans in the first half of 2012. We have no estimate as to how many elderly people will take part in the Scheme. The Administration endeavours to launch the Scheme around mid-2013, and hence there is no provision for allowance payment under the Scheme in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)511

Question Serial No.

1540

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the provisions for various employment assistance projects and the estimated numbers of participants in 2012-13? Are there any changes when compared with those of last year?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : (a) The estimated expenditures for the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme (IEAS), the Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP) and the New Dawn (ND) Project in 2011-12 and 2012-13^[Note] are as follows –

Employment assistance project	Estimated expenditure in 2011-12 (\$ million)	Estimated expenditure in 2012-13 (\$ million)
IEAS	59.5	67.5
My STEP	5.7	5.7
ND Project	10.8	11.8

- (b) The estimated numbers of participants for the IEAS, My STEP and the ND Project in 2011-12 and 2012-13^[Note] are as follows –

Employment assistance project	Estimated number of participants in 2011-12	Estimated number of participants in 2012-13
IEAS	34 200	36 800
My STEP	420	420
ND Project	4 800	4 800

[Note] SWD is carrying out a review to integrate and improve these employment assistance programmes in 2012-13 with a view to enhancing effectiveness and achieving synergy.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)512

Question Serial No.

1541

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under the programme on “Services for Elders”, the Administration will allocate a total of about \$4,930 million to promote the welfare of the elderly. Please state the respective provisions for residential care services as well as community care and support services for the elderly in 2012-13 and over the past three years.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The respective funding provisions for residential care services and community care and support services for the elderly in 2012-13 and the expenditure in the previous three years are as follows –

Financial Year Service	2009-10 (Actual) (\$ million)	2010-11 (Actual) (\$ million)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2012-13 (Estimate) (\$ million)
Residential Care Services	2,337.1	2,435.3	2,659.3	3,132.0
Community Care and Support Services	1,276.8	1,299.7	1,382.2	1,505.6
Total	3,613.9	3,735.0	4,041.5	4,637.6

In 2012-13, apart from the above services, additional resources have been reserved for strengthening the administrative support of non-governmental organisations and organising two classes of the Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector to provide an additional 320 training places, etc. All these add up to the estimated total expenditure of about \$4,930 million under the “Services for Elders” programme in 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the number of additional places to be provided in various types of residential care homes for the elderly in 2012-13? What is the total provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2012-13, 1 219 additional subsidised residential care places are expected to commence service, of which 507 are nursing home places and 712 are care-and-attention places. The estimated annual expenditure is \$138.3 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)514

Question Serial No.

1543

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What was the number of elders waitlisting for places in various types of residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) in 2011-12? What was the average waiting time? To what extent will the average waiting time be expected to be shortened with the provision of additional places in these RCHEs in 2012-13? Please provide the information in table form.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : As at the end of December 2011, the number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised residential care services (RCS) and the average waiting time were as follows –

Type of subsidised RCS places	Number of applicants on the waiting list	Average waiting time ^[Note 1] (in months)
Care-and-attention (C&A) places in subvented/contract homes	21 283 ^[Note 2]	34
C&A places under Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)		8
Nursing Home (NH) places ^[Note 3]	6 575	37

[Note 1] Average waiting time for admitted cases in the past three months. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

[Note 2] Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract homes or EBPS homes. The Social Welfare Department only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole.

[Note 3] Including subsidised NH places provided by subvented NHs, self-financing NHs under the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme and contract homes.

The additional subsidised RCS places will help ease the pressure on waiting time. However, as the waiting time for subsidised RCS places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes, whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home, the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the provision of additional places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)515

Question Serial No.

1544

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to provide 1 954 nursing home (NH) places in 2012-13. Among them, what is the number of subsidised NH places to be purchased under the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme (NHPPS)? What is the allocation involved? Is there any change in the number of places purchased as compared with that in the previous year?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department will purchase 229 additional NH places from self-financing NHs and residential care homes for the elderly under NHPPS, whereas 27 NH places under NHPPS were purchased in 2011-12. The estimated allocation for the 229 NH places to be purchased in 2012-13 is \$33.4 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)516

Question Serial No.

1545

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The average cost per place per month for private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) in 2012-13 will slightly increase by 0.5% when compared with that of last year. The cost for contract residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) is expected to further increase by 27.4% to a total of \$11,479 in 2012-13, following the increase of 25.9% in 2011-12. How does the Administration calculate the increase? What are the reasons for the surge in the cost for contract RCHEs?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Owing to the enhanced provision of manpower and care support to meet the operational needs in raising the ratio of nursing home places from an average of 50% to 90% of the total number of residential places in contract homes, the increase in estimated cost per place per month of contract homes in 2012-13 is higher than that for EBPS homes, which follows the annual price adjustment.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)517

Question Serial No.

1546

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many contract homes for the elderly will be increased in 2012-13?
What is the budget involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2012-13, the Social Welfare Department will award contract for one new contract home located in Sai Ying Pun with 56 subsidised and 37 non-subsidised residential care places. The estimated expenditure per annum of this contract home is \$8.4 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)518

Question Serial No.

1547

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the plan for a pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly in 2012-13, what are the specific details of the work?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The Administration consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the preliminary proposal of the pilot scheme on community care service (CCS) voucher for the elderly (the scheme) on 13 February 2012. The scheme will adopt a new funding mode, whereby the Administration provides subsidy directly to the service users instead of the service providers. To fully test the funding mode, the scheme will last for four years and be implemented in two phases. Elders who have been assessed to have impairment at moderate level or above may participate in the scheme. They may choose the service provider, the type of service and the service package which best suit their needs. For the first phase of the scheme, we will target elders who have impairment at moderate level. A co-payment and means-test mechanism will be introduced and a single voucher value at \$5,000 per month is proposed, with Government subsidy ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,500. The scheme will be launched in selected districts. Selection of districts will be based on the district profile as well as the readiness of service providers to provide the services. For the first phase, we will invite non-governmental organisations and non-profit organisations (including social enterprises) to participate as they are more experienced in the provision of CCS to elders.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)519

Question Serial No.

1548

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the membership in various types of elderly centres respectively in 2011-12? Was there any change when compared with the previous year? Will the membership increase in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The services of elderly centres are open to all members of the public aged 60 or above. The total number of members of the 210 elderly centres as at the end of 2011 was about 195 000, with an increase of about 5 000 when compared with that in 2010-11. It is anticipated that the number of members will gradually increase in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)520

Question Serial No.

1549

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the respective funding provisions for district elderly community centres (DECCs), neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs) and social centres for the elderly (SEs) in 2012-13? How do they compare with those of the previous year?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated annual expenditure for various types of elderly centres in 2012-13 and the revised estimate for 2011-12 are shown below –

<u>Financial year</u> Type of Centre	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2012-13 (Estimate) (\$ million)
DECCs	269.0	278.9
NECs	227.0	238.7
SEs	49.5	49.6
Total	545.5	567.2

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The number of cases served by enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) will increase by 16.1% to a total of 6 500 in 2012-13. What is the allocation for this service? What is the distribution of these additional places by district? How many people are waiting for EHCCS at present and what is their waiting time? To what extent will the waiting time be shortened after the provision of additional EHCCS places in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Altogether, 500 additional EHCCS places will be provided in 2012-13 and the additional annual allocation is \$21.8 million. The places will be allocated to various districts according to service demand. The breakdown of the planned EHCCS places by district is as follows –

District	Number of planned additional EHCCS places to be provided in 2012-13
Hong Kong	115
East Kowloon	80
Western Kowloon	40
New Territories East	100
New Territories West	165
Total	500

The number of new EHCCS places is larger than the number of frail elders currently waiting for home care services (about 400). The current waiting time is about three months. With the increase of the EHCCS places, the waiting time is expected to be greatly shortened.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the plans to strengthen the care for infirm and demented elders in residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and day care centres for the elderly in 2012-13? What will be the additional allocation?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : To enhance the support for demented elders in subvented RCHEs, private RCHEs under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and subsidised day care centres or units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs), an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of Dementia Supplement (DS). The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

An additional recurrent funding of \$17.5 million will be used to increase the Infirmary Care Supplement (ICS) for subvented RCHEs and EBPS homes in 2012-13 to enhance the support for infirm elders residing in these RCHEs. The total recurrent allocation is \$101.3 million.

With the allocation of DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary. For RCHEs allocated with ICS, they can employ additional staff including physiotherapists, nurses, health workers and care workers, or purchase professional services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)523

Question Serial No.

1552

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the allocation involved in the increase of 225 places of day care (DC) centres for the elderly in 2012-13? How many people are waiting for such places at present? What is the average waiting time? What is the distribution of these additional places by district?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2012-13, 225 additional DC places for the elderly are expected to commence service and the estimated annual expenditure is \$17.3 million. As at the end of January 2012, there were 1 761 elders waiting for subsidised DC places and the average waiting time was about nine months. The geographical distribution of the planned additional DC places is as follows –

District	Number of DC places
Kwun Tong	100
Yau Tsim Mong	20
Sha Tin	45
Kwai Tsing	60
Total	225

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)524

Question Serial No.

1553

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list in table form the number of persons waitlisting, the average waiting time and the provision for halfway houses (HWHs), long stay care homes (LSCHs) for discharged mental patients, hostels for moderately mentally handicapped persons (HMMHs), hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons (HSMHs), hostels for severely physically handicapped persons (HSPHs), care-and-attention homes for the severely disabled persons (C&A/SDs) and care-and-attention homes for the aged blind (C&A/ABs) in the past two years. How much waiting time will be shortened after the increase in various types of residential care places in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The numbers of applicants on waiting lists of the following types of residential care services for the last two years were as below –

Type of service	Number of applicants	
	2010-11 (as at the end of March 2011)	2011-12 (as at the end of December 2011)
HWH	784	697
LSCH	1 116	1 174
HMMH	1 386	1 365
HSMH	1 995	2 015
HSPH	386	396
C&A/SD	361	369
C&A/AB	103	90

The average waiting time for the above residential care services for the last two years was as follows –

Type of service	Average waiting time (in months)	
	2009-10	2010-11
HWH	6.2	8.2
LSCH	31.8	38.2
HMMH	79.1	80.4
HSMH	68.4	73.2
HSPH	61.9	38.6
C&A/SD	39.6	39.6
C&A/AB	3.2	4.0

The financial provision for the above residential care services for the last two years was as follows –

Type of service	Expenditure (\$ million)	
	2010-11 (Actual)	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)
HWH	151.7	146.6 ^[Note]
LSCH	152.8	171.7
HMMH	153.3	174.3
HSMH	415.2	470.4
HSPH	78.5	88.6
C&A/SD	139.2	156.0
C&A/AB	99.0	110.1

[Note] Two types of mental health community support services (i.e. Aftercare Service for Dischargees of HWH and Community Mental Health Link) originally attached to HWH have been revamped and taken over by the Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness (ICCMWs) since October 2010. In this regard, the financial provision for these services has been re-allocated to ICCMWs, resulting in a slight decrease in expenditure for HWH in 2011-12.

The Administration has identified suitable premises/sites for provision of 627 additional places of various types of residential care services for persons with disabilities in 2012-13. As the waiting time is affected by a number of factors

such as the location preference of applicants and the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate to what extent the waiting time will be shortened by provision of the additional places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)525

Question Serial No.

1554

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the last year's Budget, there would be an increase of 276 places to 3 469 places in hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons (HSMHs) in 2011-12 but there is only an increase of 25 places to 3 218 places in the revised estimate. What are the reasons? In which districts are the additional 301 places to be provided in 2012-13? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The Administration has reserved additional recurrent funding to provide 276 additional places for severely mentally handicapped persons in 2011-12. Amongst these 276 places, only 25 places have been provided due to the longer than expected preparation time required for conducting local consultations, securing the allocation of premises and carrying out refurbishment or fitting-out works, etc.

Inclusive of 251 places rolled over from 2011-12, 301 additional HSMH places will come on stream in 2012-13. Since the provision of these places is still at the preparatory stage, including local consultation, application for change in land use, drawing up configuration of the premises, etc., we are unable to provide detailed information on the district distribution of places at this juncture. The estimated expenditure for HSMH service in 2012-13 is about \$522 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)526

Question Serial No.

1555

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the estimated numbers of places and cases to be served in each type of services provided by integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs) in 2012-13 respectively? What is the allocation involved in this regard?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory for the provision of district-based and one-stop community mental health support services. With an additional annual recurrent provision of \$48 million in 2011-12 and 2012-13, it is estimated that the ICCMWs will serve about 25 500 discharged mental patients and persons with mental health problems as well as their family members/carers per annum.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In which districts will the three new Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) be set up in 2012-13? When will they commence operation?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : The locations of the three new IFSCs to be set up in 2012-13 will be decided having regard to the social indicators and service demand of individual districts such as the number of new cases handled by each IFSC, the projected growth and profile of the population, etc. The new IFSCs will commence operation by end-2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Apart from training in investigation skills, will the Department also provide training to enhance social security staff's awareness of crisis in order to prevent bodily harm caused by conflicts during the course of investigation?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : Apart from training in investigation and verification skills, the Department has also conducted other regular training programmes for social security staff to enhance their awareness of crisis and techniques in handling difficult situations in the workplace, including violent situations.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Has the Administration reviewed regularly the manning ratio of the social security staff? Given the manpower wastage problems in the Social Security Branch, will there be sufficient manpower for processing applications?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) conducts equitable staff re-deployment exercise half-yearly taking into account the caseload statistics for the past six months so as to ensure a fair distribution of staff among Social Security Field Units.

SWD has always been closely monitoring the vacancy position of the Social Security Officer (SSO) and Social Security Assistant (SSA) Grades. An appointment exercise for SSO II was just concluded in November 2011. The recruitment exercise for the SSA grade is currently in progress. SWD will ensure that there will be sufficient manpower to fill vacancies arising from wastage for processing applications under the various social security schemes.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)530

Question Serial No.

1507

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) It is stated in the Budget that the Administration will provide 2 600 additional residential care places for the elderly in the future. What are the details?
- (b) How many additional day care (DC) places for the elderly will be provided in 2012-13? Where will these places be located?
- (c) The current waiting time for nursing home (NH) places and care-and-attention (C&A) home places exceeds three years, and this situation has not changed over the years. Does the Administration have any enhanced measures to address this situation so as to solve the problem of long waiting time or so-called “clearing the queue”?
- (d) Given the serious problem of ageing population, the demand for health care professionals is increasing. Does the Administration have any annual plan regarding the provision of places for the training of health care professionals? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : (a) The Administration will continue to devote additional resources to provide more residential care places for the elderly. From 2011-12 to 2014-15, more than 2 600 additional subsidised residential care places will come on stream with details as follows –

Type of residential care places	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
NH Places	365	507	233	154
C&A Places	644	712	15	12
Total	1 009	1 219	248	166

- (b) In 2012-13, 225 additional DC places for the elderly are expected to commence service. The geographical distribution of the planned additional DC places is as follows –

District	Number of DC places
Kwun Tong	100
Yau Tsim Mong	20
Sha Tin	45
Kwai Tsing	60
Total	225

- (c) The additional places will help ease the pressure on waiting time. However, as the waiting time for subsidised RCS places is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes; whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home; the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional places. We will continue to increase the provision of subsidised RCS places to meet the demand.

It has to be noted that elders waiting for subsidised RCS can also receive community care services. We will therefore enhance the community care and supportive services to the elders waiting for subsidised RCS to help them age at home.

- (d) The Administration advises the University Grants Committee (UGC) regularly on the demand for tertiary training places so that the tertiary institutions can make reference to such information when preparing academic development proposals. When UGC was working on the academic plans for the 2012-13 to 2014-15 triennium, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) had updated its projections on the demand (including present and future demand) for various types of nursing and paramedical staff in the social welfare sector. The projections have been relayed to UGC through the Education Bureau. The Administration will allocate resources in the triennium mentioned above to increase the number of first-year first-degree places, among others, in nursing by 40 and allied health professions (e.g.

physiotherapists and occupational therapists) by 146. Furthermore, the Administration has set up a Steering Committee on Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development to conduct a strategic review on healthcare manpower planning and professional development covering 13 healthcare disciplines which are subject to statutory regulation.

To alleviate the shortage of nurses in the welfare sector, SWD has collaborated with the Hospital Authority to organise the 2-year Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector since 2006. A total of ten training classes has been organised. Two more classes will be organised in 2012-13. The 12 classes will provide a total of about 1 500 training places. The training programme is fully subsidised by the Government. The trainees are required to sign an undertaking to work in the welfare sector for two consecutive years upon graduation.

To alleviate the shortage of allied health professionals in the welfare sector, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University has commenced the 2-year Master in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy programmes in January 2012, providing a total of about 60 training places (about 30 each), and the graduates are expected to join the job market in early 2014. SWD has implemented a training sponsorship scheme at the same time to provide funding support for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to sponsor the tuition fees of students enrolled in these respective programmes to encourage them to join the welfare sector upon graduation. Students are required to serve at the relevant NGOs for no less than two years upon graduation.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)531

Question Serial No.

1508

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) What is the effectiveness of the pilot Bought Place Scheme (BPS) for private residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs)? Has the anticipated enrolment rate of the private RCHDs been achieved?

(b) Is there any indicator set by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to ensure that residential care place is allocated to persons with disabilities waitlisting for the places within a reasonable time? If yes, what is the indicator? If no, how will SWD deal with the long waiting time?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : (a) With a view to upgrading the service standard of private RCHDs, increasing the supply of subsidised residential care places and helping the market develop more service options for persons with disabilities, SWD has launched a four-year pilot BPS for private RCHDs since October 2010. A total of around 300 places will be purchased by phases under the BPS. As at the end of December 2011, 60 BPS places had been purchased from two private RCHDs with an average enrolment rate of 90%. A mid-term review will be conducted in 2012 having regard to the operational experience, responses of service users and private RCHDs, etc. to facilitate refinement of the operational details as appropriate. An overall review of the BPS will also be conducted before its expiry to assess its long-term feasibility.

(b) The Administration has been adopting a three-pronged approach to encourage participation from different sectors in providing diversified residential care services for persons with disabilities, viz. regulating the RCHDs, so as to ensure the service quality on the one hand and help the market develop residential care homes of different types and operational modes on the other; supporting non-governmental organisations to develop self-financing homes; and continuing to steadily increase the number of subsidised residential care home

places. In accordance with these strategic directions, we have introduced a licensing scheme for RCHDs and implemented the above-mentioned BPS as a complementary measure. The Administration has also been steadily increasing the provision of subvented RCHD places. We provided an additional 1 409 subsidised residential places in the last five years from 2007-08 to 2011-12. A total of 627 additional residential care places will also come on stream in 2012-13. We will continue to step up efforts in identifying new resources and suitable premises for setting up new RCHDs in order to steadily increase the number of subsidised residential places for persons with disabilities.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the specific services provided by district support centres for persons with disabilities (DSCs) to help persons with disabilities and their families living in the community and the effectiveness of these services?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : The DSCs, which were set up in January 2009, provide a range of one-stop and district-based community support services to persons with disabilities and their families/carers. Services provided include individual/group training programmes, care and support service, personal development programmes, social and recreational activities, carer support programmes, volunteer development programmes, programmes for autistic persons, day care service for persons with severe disabilities and community education. As at the end of December 2011, 5 056 members were registered at the 16 DSCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How effective are the pilot cyber youth outreaching projects?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : The three pilot cyber youth outreaching projects have commenced operation since August 2011. The Social Welfare Department has commissioned the Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention of the University of Hong Kong to conduct an evaluative study to assess the feasibility, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the projects and to make recommendations on the way forward. The study will be completed by the end of 2014.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to raise the foster care allowance in 2012-13. What is the reason for that? How much expenditure will be involved? What is the number of individuals in receipt of such allowance?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : The foster care allowance will be raised in 2012-13 to strengthen the support provided by foster parents to children under their care and encourage more suitable families to join as foster parents. The Administration has reserved an additional amount of \$21.2 million per annum for this purpose. As at 31 January 2012, there were 1 020 foster care service places involving 650 foster parents and 897 children were under their care.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)535

Question Serial No.

0361

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to provide an additional 50 places respectively for foster care and residential homes for children (RHCs) in 2012-13. In which districts will the additional places be provided respectively? What is the estimated expenditure per annum?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : Both foster care and RHCs are not locality-based. Foster care is a non-institutional service delivered at the foster parents' homes over the territory. The Administration has reserved \$4.4 million per annum to provide an additional 50 foster care places in 2012-13.

RHCs are institutional service for children in need of residential care. The additional 50 places will be provided through in-situ expansion of existing RHCs located in accessible locations over the territory. The Administration has reserved \$8.7 million per annum for these additional places in 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Subhead (No. & title) :
000 Operational Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that the estimated provision for social welfare services (grants) would be \$9,982,628,000 in 2012-13. Please provide the list of all subvented organisations and the respective amount of provision.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : The list of 171 subvented non-governmental organisations (NGOs), together with the provisional amount of subventions to be allocated to each of these NGOs in 2012-13, is attached at Annex.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Social Welfare Department
Subvention Allocation 2012-13 (provisional)

<u>S/N</u>	<u>NGOs under Lump Sum Grant</u>	<u>Subvention Allocation 2012-13</u> ^[Note 1]
		\$
1	ABERDEEN KAI-FONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE	53,456,446
2	ABM HONG KONG SWATOW BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICE ASSOCIATION LIMITED (THE)	9,663,601
3	AGAINST CHILD ABUSE LIMITED	1,373,573
4	AGENCY FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE	1,605,467
5	ALICE HO MIU LING NETHERSOLE CHARITY FOUNDATION	38,784,561
6	ALICE LAN & VERA SHEN EDUCATION FUND LIMITED	1,396,524
7	ASBURY METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICE	13,459,065
8	ASIA WOMEN'S LEAGUE LIMITED	31,699,074
9	ASIAN OUTREACH HONG KONG LIMITED	1,027,804
10	ASSOCIATION FOR ENGINEERING & MEDICAL VOLUNTEER SERVICES	10,224,346
11	ASSOCIATION FOR THE RIGHTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT VICTIMS LIMITED	710,381
12	ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS FOR WORLD EVANGELISM (HONG KONG) LIMITED	13,659,354
13	ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCHES OF HONG KONG (THE)	8,993,845
14	BAPTIST MID-MISSIONS	1,892,642
15	BAPTIST OI KWAN SOCIAL SERVICE	58,122,127
16	BARNABAS CHARITABLE SERVICE ASSOCIATION LIMITED (THE)	5,515,698
17	BOYS' & GIRLS' CLUBS ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG (THE)	229,352,088
18	BOYS' BRIGADE HONG KONG LIMITED (THE)	4,135,785
19	CARITAS - HONG KONG	698,959,325
20	CHEUNG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE INTERGATED YOUTH CENTRE	2,624,752
21	CHEUNG SHA WAN KAI FONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION LAM TAM YIN WAH DAY NURSERY	436,749
22	CHI LIN NUNNERY	34,030,545
23	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (THE)	3,475,128
24	CHINA PENIEL MISSIONARY SOCIETY INCORPORATION	1,081,320
25	CHINESE EVANGELICAL ZION CHURCH LIMITED	6,837,239
26	CHINESE RHENISH CHURCH HONG KONG SYNOD (THE)	48,208,669
27	CHINESE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG	142,381,770
28	CHING CHUNG TAOIST ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG LIMITED	21,121,167
29	CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE CHURCH UNION (HONG KONG) LIMITED	12,828,073
30	CHRISTIAN CONCERN FOR THE HOMELESS ASSOCIATION	3,426,305
31	CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE	166,315,550
32	CHRISTIAN NATIONALS' EVANGELISM COMMISSION AGED PEOPLE CENTRE	1,092,678
33	CHRISTIAN NEW BEING FELLOWSHIP LIMITED (THE)	9,185,755
34	CHUK LAM MING TONG LIMITED	19,496,603
35	CHUNG SHAK-HEI (CHEUNG CHAU) HOME FOR THE AGED LIMITED	22,866,231
36	CHUNG SING BENEVOLENT SOCIETY	23,887,134
37	CHURCH OF UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST HONG KONG LIMITED (THE)	15,292,017
38	EBENEZER SCHOOL AND HOME FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (THE)	10,508,218
39	ELCHK SOCIAL SERVICE HEAD OFFICE	153,288,767
40	EMMANUEL CHURCH	403,899
41	ENDEAVOURERS HONG KONG (THE)	1,038,140
42	EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF CHINA - EVANGEL CHILDREN'S HOME	6,382,856
43	FINNISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MISSION (THE)	5,968,137
44	FIVE DISTRICTS BUSINESS WELFARE ASSOCIATION	781,443
45	FREE METHODIST CHURCH OF HONG KONG (THE)	9,582,412
46	FU HONG SOCIETY	240,117,999
47	FUNG KAI PUBLIC SCHOOL	15,751,526

<u>S/N</u>	<u>NGOs under Lump Sum Grant</u>	<u>Subvention</u>
		<u>Allocation</u>
		<u>2012-13</u> ^[Note 1]
		\$
48	FUNG YING SEEN KOON	2,168,428
49	HANS ANDERSEN CLUB	2,701,176
50	HARMONY HOUSE LIMITED	5,703,688
51	HAVEN OF HOPE CHRISTIAN SERVICE	129,639,221
52	HEEP HONG SOCIETY	170,265,056
53	HELPING HAND	44,399,673
54	HEUNG HOI CHING KOK LIN ASSOCIATION	106,618,326
55	HONG CHI ASSOCIATION	180,445,284
56	HONG KONG - MACAO CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH - DAY ADVENTISTS	10,839,836
57	HONG KONG & KOWLOON KAIFONG WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION	3,603,185
58	HONG KONG & MACAU LUTHERAN CHURCH	9,230,220
59	HONG KONG AND MACAU REGIONAL CENTRE OF THE WORLD FELLOWSHIP OF BUDDHISTS LIMITED	1,704,602
60	HONG KONG BLIND UNION	2,817,729
61	HONG KONG BODHI SIKSA SOCIETY LIMITED (THE)	12,667,378
62	HONG KONG BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION (THE)	32,687,029
63	HONG KONG CATHOLIC MARRIAGE ADVISORY COUNCIL (THE)	11,103,150
64	HONG KONG CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES	137,839,347
65	HONG KONG CHINESE WOMEN'S CLUB	23,699,903
66	HONG KONG CHRISTIAN MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY	2,435,674
67	HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE	252,092,796
68	HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE (THE)	29,862,348
69	HONG KONG DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (THE)	9,208,663
70	HONG KONG EVANGELICAL CHURCH SOCIAL SERVICE LIMITED	7,369,883
71	HONG KONG FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY	201,844,857
72	HONG KONG FEDERATION OF HANDICAPPED YOUTH	3,113,846
73	HONG KONG FEDERATION OF THE BLIND	1,531,507
74	HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS (THE)	194,558,921
75	HONG KONG JUVENILE CARE CENTRE (THE)	13,154,180
76	HONG KONG LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE LUTHERAN CHURCH - HONG KONG SYNOD LIMITED	191,612,463
77	HONG KONG MUTUAL ENCOURAGEMENT ASSOCIATION LIMITED	2,249,886
78	HONG KONG PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE & SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED	1,746,535
79	HONG KONG PHAB ASSOCIATION	29,703,229
80	HONG KONG PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION	83,643,383
81	HONG KONG RED CROSS	4,149,875
82	HONG KONG REHABILITATION POWER	2,358,974
83	HONG KONG SHENG KUNG HUI WELFARE COUNCIL	454,924,408
84	HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR REHABILITATION (THE)	26,539,454
85	HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE AGED (THE)	198,696,130
86	HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND (THE)	90,644,406
87	HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE DEAF (THE)	25,256,999
88	HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN	32,207,252
89	HONG KONG SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED	1,508,072
90	HONG KONG STUDENT AID SOCIETY	40,453,484
91	HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION (THE)	17,673,232
92	HONG KONG WEST POINT BAPTIST CHURCH	1,008,720
93	HONG KONG WOMEN FOUNDATION LIMITED	1,135,580
94	HONG KONG YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION	184,618,736
95	HOP YAT CHURCH, THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN CHINA	994,457
96	INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST PROGRESS SOCIETY (HONG KONG) LIMITED	1,076,045
97	INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF THE FOURSQUARE GOSPEL HONG KONG DISTRICT LIMITED	2,675,584
98	INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE HONG KONG BRANCH	75,877,734

<u>S/N</u>	<u>NGOs under Lump Sum Grant</u>	Subvention Allocation 2012-13 ^[Note 1]
		\$
99	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S LEAGUE LIMITED	1,088,673
100	JORDAN VALLEY KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION	1,128,431
101	KIANGSU CHEKIANG & SHANGHAI RESIDENTS (HONG KONG) ASSOCIATION	18,509,252
102	KOWLOON CITY BAPTIST CHURCH	2,504,136
103	KOWLOON WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB (THE)	10,225,743
104	KWUN TONG METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICE	11,105,081
105	LAM TIN ESTATE KAI FONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION LIMITED (THE)	1,103,916
106	LIGHT AND LOVE HOME LIMITED	1,060,923
107	LOK CHI ASSOCIATION LIMITED	1,578,770
108	LOK SIN TONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY KOWLOON (THE)	31,463,466
109	LUTHERAN PHILIP HOUSE LIMITED	3,305,121
110	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG (THE)	149,175,813
111	METHODIST CENTRE	21,992,060
112	METHODIST EPWORTH VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTRE, SOCIAL WELFARE	38,129,483
113	MISSION COVENANT CHURCH LIMITED (THE)	1,755,697
114	MONG KOK KAI FONG ASSOCIATION LIMITED (THE)	25,995,461
115	MOTHER SUPERIOR OF THE CONGREGATION OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD OF ANGERS AT HONG KONG (THE)	15,013,030
116	MOTHER'S CHOICE	16,021,672
117	NEIGHBOURHOOD ADVICE-ACTION COUNCIL (THE)	221,252,664
118	NESBITT CENTRE LIMITED (THE)	1,435,521
119	NEW LIFE CHURCH OF CHRIST HONG KONG LIMITED	2,175,808
120	NEW LIFE PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION	199,619,702
121	NEW TERRITORIES WOMEN & JUVENILES WELFARE ASSOCIATION LIMITED (THE)	5,098,717
122	OPERATION DAWN LIMITED (THE)	6,863,449
123	PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF HONG KONG	19,219,110
124	PO LEUNG KUK	383,752,061
125	POK OI HOSPITAL	120,519,600
126	PROJECT CARE	7,148,252
127	RICHMOND FELLOWSHIP OF HONG KONG	39,672,927
128	S K H ST MATTHIAS' CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL LIMITED	790,343
129	S K H ST SIMON'S SOCIAL SERVICES	1,306,127
130	S K H ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME LIMITED	40,933,011
131	SAHK	239,521,747
132	SALVATION ARMY (THE)	287,274,431
133	SAMARITAN BEFRIENDERS HONG KONG (THE)	7,148,396
134	SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG	31,996,182
135	SHAMSHUIPO KAI FONG WELFARE ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION	924,860
136	SIK SIK YUEN	103,688,355
137	SISTERS OF IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	1,515,549
138	SOCIETY FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION	1,726,098
139	SOCIETY OF BOYS' CENTRES	40,245,019
140	SOCIETY OF REHABILITATION AND CRIME PREVENTION HONG KONG (THE)	87,707,051
141	SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL	611,205
142	ST. JAMES' SETTLEMENT	143,906,664
143	STEWARDS LIMITED	54,712,467
144	SUEN MEI SPEECH & HEARING CENTRE	2,906,367
145	SUPERIORESS OF THE SISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD (THE)	9,983,355
146	TAI HANG RESIDENTS' WELFARE ASSOCIATION	2,596,479
147	TSIM SHA TSUI DISTRICT KAIFONG WELFARE ASSOCIATION	1,055,788
148	TSUNG TSIN MISSION OF HONG KONG SOCIAL SERVICE COMPANY LIMITED (THE)	22,319,839
149	TUNG LUM NIEN FAH TONG LIMITED	7,242,544

<u>S/N</u>	<u>NGOs under Lump Sum Grant</u>	<u>Subvention Allocation 2012-13</u> ^[Note 1]
		\$
150	TUNG SIN TAN HOME FOR THE AGED	4,807,829
151	TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS	730,015,152
152	UNITED CHRISTIAN NETHERSOLE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE	7,109,969
153	WAI JI CHRISTIAN SERVICE	118,118,637
154	WATCHDOG LIMITED	3,701,724
155	WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB (EASTERN DISTRICT) HONG KONG (THE)	20,979,667
156	WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB WESTERN DISTRICT HONG KONG	3,462,002
157	YAN CHAI HOSPITAL	246,269,224
158	YAN OI TONG	73,865,082
159	YANG MEMORIAL METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICE	108,970,447
160	YOUTH OUTREACH	10,557,373
161	YUEN LONG TOWN HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE LIMITED	20,871,269
162	YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE (THE)	23,364,073
163	YUK CHI RESOURCE CENTRE LIMITED	2,187,222
164	ZION SOCIAL SERVICE LIMITED	6,860,306
Sub-total for 164 NGOs (A)		<u>9,065,669,724</u>

S/N NGOs under Conventional Subvention Modes

165	BAPTIST CONVENTION OF HONG KONG (THE)	132,684
166	HONG KONG CHIU CHOW PO HING BUDDHISM ASSOCIATION LIMITED	1,092,682
167	HONG KONG COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN CHINA (THE)	9,123,547
168	NEW KOWLOON WOMEN ASSOCIATION LIMITED	1,689,562
169	SAI KUNG DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE	6,307,652
170	SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS (THE)	4,121,533
171	YAN TIN BAPTIST CHURCH	906,169
Sub-total for 7 NGOs (B)		<u>23,373,829</u>
Grand total for 171 NGOs ^[Note 2] (A) + (B)		<u><u>9,089,043,553</u></u>

[Note 1] The provisional subvention allocation for 2012-13 is calculated with reference to the financial position as at 16 February 2012. Subject to any subsequent adjustment to the allocation before the end of March 2012, the finalised figures for the year may be further adjusted.

[Note 2] The approximate \$10 billion social welfare subventions for 2012-13 include provisional subventions of approximately \$9 billion to be allocated to all the 171 subvented NGOs and approximately \$1 billion to be allocated separately to NGOs running new projects in 2012-13 and for other on-going initiatives.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)537

Question Serial No.

0479

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff, please provide the following information –

	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()
Distribution of posts taken up by NCSC staff			
Salary expenditure for NCSC staff	()	()	()
Monthly salaries of NCSC staff			
- \$30,001 or above	()	()	()
- \$16,001 to \$30,000	()	()	()
- \$8,001 to \$16,000	()	()	()
- \$6,501 to \$8,000	()	()	()
- \$5,001 to \$6,500	()	()	()
- \$5,000 or below	()	()	()
- Number of staff with monthly salaries below \$5,824	()	()	()
- Number of staff with monthly salaries between \$5,824 and \$6,500	()	()	()
Length of employment of NCSC staff in years			
- 5 years or above	()	()	()
- 3 to 5 years	()	()	()
- 1 to 3 years	()	()	()
- less than 1 year	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff who have been appointed as civil servants	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff not appointed as civil servants	()	()	()
NCSC staff as a percentage of the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()
Staff costs on NCSC staff as a percentage of the total staff costs of the department	()	()	()
Number of staff with remunerated meal break	()	()	()
Number of staff without remunerated meal break	()	()	()
Number of staff working 5 days a week	()	()	()
Number of staff working 6 days a week	()	()	()

Figures in () denote percentage changes

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : Information on the full-time NCSC staff^[Note] employed in the Social Welfare Department (SWD) between 2010-11 and 2011-12 is appended below. Information on 2012-13 cannot be ascertained as the NCSC staff position changes constantly.

	2011-12		2010-11
Number of NCSC staff as at 31 December of the year	294	(-9%)	322
Breakdown of NCSC staff positions :			
- Executive support & project management	27	(+13%)	24
- General & clerical support services	137	(-13%)	157
- IT support services	4	(0%)	4
- Customer services & marketing work	96	(-13%)	110
- Health care and welfare services	30	(+11%)	27
Salary expenditure for NCSC staff in the financial year (in \$ million)	35	(Not applicable) (up to 31 December 2011)	47
Breakdown of salaries :			
- \$30,001 or above	10	(+11%)	9
- \$16,001 to \$30,000	29	(+7%)	27
- \$8,001 to \$16,000	182	(-1%)	183
- \$6,501 to \$8,000	73	(+204%)	24
- \$5,001 to \$6,500	0	(-100%)	79
- \$5,000 or below	0	(Not applicable)	0
- Number of staff with monthly salaries below \$5,824	0	(Not applicable)	0
- Number of staff with monthly salaries between \$5,824 and \$6,500	0	(-100%)	79
Length of employment in years			
- 5 years or above	141	(0%)	141
- 3 to 5 years	55	(+41%)	39
- 1 to 3 years	43	(-56%)	97
- less than 1 year	55	(+22%)	45
Number of NCSC staff who have been appointed as civil servants	SWD has not collected any information on NCSC staff's applications for various civil service posts. The requested figures are not available.		
Number of NCSC staff not appointed as civil servants			
NCSC staff as a percentage of the total number of staff in the department	5%	(-17%)	6%

	2011-12	2010-11
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Expenditure on NCSC staff as a percentage of total staff expenditure of the department in the financial year	2.1% (Not applicable) (up to 31 December 2011)	2.3%
Number of NCSC staff with remunerated meal break	258 (-20%)	322
Number of NCSC staff without remunerated meal break	7 (Not applicable) (including hourly rated staff on continuous employment)	0
Number of NCSC staff working 5 days per week Number of NCSC staff working 6 days per week	Currently, the majority of NCSC staff normally work five days per week depending on service nature and needs.	

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes.

[Note] “Full-time” employment refers to “continuous contract” as defined under the Employment Ordinance. According to the Employment Ordinance, an employee who works continuously for the same employer for four weeks or more, with at least 18 hours in each week, is regarded as working under a continuous contract.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)538

Question Serial No.

0504

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : On engaging agency workers, please provide the following information –

	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Number of contracts of engaging employment agencies	()	()	()
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	()	()	()
Total amount of commission paid to each employment agency	()	()	()
Length of contract for each employment agency	()	()	()
Number of agency workers	()	()	()
Breakdown of positions held by agency workers			
Monthly salary range of agency workers			
• \$30,001 or above	()	()	()
• \$16,001 - \$30,000	()	()	()
• \$8,001 - \$16,000	()	()	()
• \$6,501 - \$8,000	()	()	()
• \$5,001 - \$6,500	()	()	()
• \$5,000 or below	()	()	()
• number of workers with monthly salary below \$5,824	()	()	()
• number of workers with monthly salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500	()	()	()
Length of service of agency workers			
• 5 years or longer	()	()	()
• 3 - 5 years	()	()	()
• 1 - 3 years	()	()	()
• less than 1 year	()	()	()
Percentage of agency workers among the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()
Percentage of amount paid to employment agencies among the total departmental staff cost	()	()	()
Number of workers with remunerated meal break	()	()	()
Number of workers without remunerated meal break	()	()	()
Number of workers on five-day week	()	()	()
Number of workers on six-day week	()	()	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease per year

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : For the period in question, the Social Welfare Department has not engaged any agency worker.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	28 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : On engaging “outsourced workers”, please provide the following information –

	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	()	()	()
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	()	()	()
Number of workers engaged through outsourced service providers	()	()	()
Details of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleansing and information technology)			
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers			
(i) \$30,001 or above	()	()	()
(ii) \$16,001 - \$30,000	()	()	()
(iii) \$8,001 - \$16,000	()	()	()
(iv) \$6,501 - \$8,000	()	()	()
(v) \$5,001 - \$6,500	()	()	()
(vi) \$5,000 or below	()	()	()
(vii) number of workers with salary below \$5,824	()	()	()
(viii) number of workers with salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500	()	()	()

	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Length of service of outsourced workers			
(i) 5 years or longer	()	()	()
(ii) 3 - 5 years	()	()	()
(iii) 1 - 3 years	()	()	()
(iv) less than 1 year	()	()	()
Percentage of outsourced workers in the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()
Percentage of amount paid to outsourced service providers in the total departmental staff cost	()	()	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()	()	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()	()	()
Number of workers working 5 days a week	()	()	()
Number of workers working 6 days a week	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : Information on engaging outsourced workers by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) for 2010-11 and 2011-12 is appended below. Information on 2012-13 cannot be ascertained as the number of outsourced workers may vary in the light of changing service and operational requirements.

	2012-13	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)	2010-11
Number of outsourced service contracts [Note 1]	Not available	92 (+33.3%)	69 (-)
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	Not available	\$20.6 million (-42.6%) [Note 2]	\$35.9 million (-)
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	Not available	One to four years	
Number of workers engaged through outsourced service providers	Not available	Not available	
Details of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleansing and information technology)	Not available	Not available	
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers			
(i) \$30,001 or above	Not available	Not available	Not available
(ii) \$16,001 - \$30,000			
(iii) \$8,001 - \$16,000			
(iv) \$6,501 - \$8,000			
(v) \$5,001 - \$6,500			
(vi) \$5,000 or below			
(vii) number of workers with salary below \$5,824			
(viii) number of workers with salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500			

	2012-13	2011-12 (up to the end of January 2012)	2010-11
Length of service of outsourced workers (i) 5 years or longer (ii) 3 - 5 years (iii) 1 - 3 years (iv) less than 1 year	Not available	Not available	
Percentage of outsourced workers in the total number of staff in the Department	Not available	Not available	
Percentage of amount paid to outsourced service providers in the total departmental staff cost	Not available	0.9% (-47.1%)	1.7% (-)
Number of workers with paid meal break Number of workers without paid meal break	Not available	Not available	
Number of workers working 5 days a week Number of workers working 6 days a week	Not available	Not available	

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

[Note 1] These refer to outsourced service contracts (cleansing, security guard, telecommunications and information technology, employment agencies, training, horticulture, catering and medical care & support) with contract value over \$50,000 awarded during the year, including services provided to the service centres operated by SWD, and also the procurement of services of employment agencies for information technology services under the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer's bulk contract.

[Note 2] For some one-off contracts, payments will be made after 2011-12 in accordance with the contract terms.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that there will be an increase in day care (DC) places for the elderly in 2012-13. What is the number of additional DC places to be provided? What is the expenditure involved? Please provide the numbers of DC places and additional places to be provided in each of the 18 districts in the territory.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : In 2012-13, 225 DC places for the elderly is expected to commence service and the estimated annual expenditure is \$17.3 million. The breakdown of existing and planned additional DC places by district is as follows –

District	Existing number of DC places (as at 31 January 2012)	Number of planned additional DC places to commence service in 2012-13
Central & Western	104	0
Eastern	216	0
Wan Chai	72	0
Southern	108	0
Islands	40	0
Kwun Tong	305	100
Wong Tai Sin	237	0
Sai Kung	145	0
Kowloon City	111	0
Sham Shui Po	203	0
Yau Tsim Mong	132	20
Sha Tin	196	45
Tai Po	64	0
North	44	0
Yuen Long	110	0
Tsuen Wan	64	0
Kwai Tsing	154	60

District	Existing number of DC places (as at 31 January 2012)	Number of planned additional DC places to commence service in 2012-13
Tuen Mun	110	0
Total	2 415	225

Signature _____

Name in block letters Patrick T K Nip

Post Title Director of Social Welfare

Date 28 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)541

Question Serial No.

0122

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme in 2011-12, would the Administration please inform this Committee of -

- (a) the numbers of CSSA households and recipients in the 18 districts in Hong Kong and the expenditure involved;
- (b) the numbers of households and recipients who are currently on CSSA and living in each public housing estates over the territory, and these numbers as a percentage to the total numbers of households and residents in that estate and the expenditure involved;
- (c) a breakdown of CSSA recipients and households by nature of cases (including old age, disability, ill health, single parent, low earnings, unemployment and new arrivals) in various districts in Hong Kong and the expenditure involved; and
- (d) a breakdown of CSSA recipients and households by nature of cases (including old age, disability, ill health, single parent, low earnings, unemployment and new arrivals) in each public housing estate and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) The 2011-12 revised estimate for CSSA expenditure (including one additional month of standard rate payment) is about \$19.6 billion, but we do not have expenditure breakdown by geographical district. The numbers of CSSA households and recipients by geographical district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows -

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Number of CSSA households	Number of CSSA recipients
Central & Western	3 449	4 168
Eastern	13 913	21 019
Islands	4 469	9 045
Kowloon City	12 553	17 919
Kwai Tsing	26 828	45 229
Kwun Tong	36 746	62 386
North	14 398	23 511
Sai Kung	9 097	15 936
Sha Tin	17 559	29 945
Sham Shui Po	24 681	36 630
Southern	8 524	12 198
Tai Po	9 681	14 991
Tsuen Wan	8 176	12 714
Tuen Mun	21 354	32 549
Wan Chai	1 964	2 238
Wong Tai Sin	21 849	35 553
Yau Tsim Mong	10 657	13 822
Yuen Long	27 495	49 004
Total ^[Note 2]	273 393	438 857

[Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

- (b) We do not have the CSSA expenditure breakdown by public housing estate. The numbers and percentages of CSSA households and recipients in each of the public housing estates as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Public housing estate	CSSA household	Percentage to total household in public housing estate	CSSA recipient	Percentage to total population in public housing estate
Ap Lei Chau	579	13%	1 115	9%
Bo Shek Mansion	69	26%	100	15%
Broadview Garden	27	6%	41	3%
Butterfly	1 336	25%	2 163	19%
Chai Wan	390	25%	582	15%
Chak On	520	30%	840	20%
Cheung Ching	631	13%	1 295	9%
Cheung Fat	412	31%	645	20%
Cheung Hang	600	14%	1 012	7%
Cheung Hong	1 424	18%	2 526	11%
Cheung Kwai	66	15%	134	9%
Cheung On	513	35%	794	20%
Cheung Shan	170	11%	386	7%
Cheung Wah	763	35%	1 374	23%
Cheung Wang	951	22%	1 948	15%
Ching Ho	2 076	29%	4 234	21%
Cho Yiu Chuen	248	10%	424	5%
Choi Fai	184	14%	350	8%
Choi Fook	735	22%	1 306	15%
Choi Ha	235	38%	376	25%
Choi Hung	1 512	21%	2 696	14%
Choi Ming Court	662	24%	1 378	15%
Choi Tak	1 030	19%	1 758	13%
Choi Wan (I)	845	15%	1 731	9%
Choi Wan (II)	446	15%	902	10%
Choi Ying	985	25%	1 786	17%
Choi Yuen	1 341	27%	2 311	18%
Chuk Yuen (North)	615	43%	1 030	26%
Chuk Yuen (South)	1 540	26%	2 671	17%
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	135	14%	230	8%
Chun Shek	444	21%	715	13%
Chung On	628	23%	1 289	14%
Clague Garden Estate	77	15%	149	9%
Easeful Court	66	13%	219	10%
Fortune	801	39%	1 146	24%
Fu Cheong	2 111	36%	3 434	21%
Fu Heng	754	38%	1 323	24%
Fu Shan	297	19%	508	13%
Fu Shin	815	31%	1 520	22%

Public housing estate	CSSA household	Percentage to total household in public housing estate	CSSA recipient	Percentage to total population in public housing estate
Fu Tai	1 050	21%	2 500	13%
Fu Tung	193	12%	422	7%
Fuk Loi	561	18%	971	13%
Fung Tak	715	52%	1 031	35%
Fung Wah	144	36%	226	22%
Grandeur Terrace	937	23%	2 740	18%
Hau Tak	686	17%	1 291	10%
Healthy Village	146	13%	234	8%
Heng On	429	42%	804	25%
High Prosperity Terrace	71	9%	231	8%
Hin Keng	377	45%	713	27%
Hin Yiu	215	27%	399	20%
Hing Man	304	16%	630	10%
Hing Tin	185	36%	388	23%
Hing Tung	315	15%	565	8%
Hing Wah (I)	497	22%	913	12%
Hing Wah (II)	820	24%	1 380	16%
Ho Man Tin	1 057	23%	1 743	13%
Hoi Fu Court	918	33%	1 687	20%
Hoi Lai	926	19%	2 379	13%
Hong Tung	226	50%	285	34%
Hung Hom	501	29%	797	17%
Jat Min Chuen	495	14%	803	7%
Ka Fuk	421	22%	750	12%
Ka Wai Chuen	323	20%	498	11%
Kai Tin	534	24%	852	13%
Kai Yip	1 113	27%	1 774	19%
Kam Peng	51	21%	92	12%
Kin Ming	1 423	20%	3 251	15%
Kin Sang	202	32%	351	20%
King Lam	741	42%	1 095	29%
Ko Cheung Court	292	16%	867	12%
Ko Yee	283	25%	452	13%
Kwai Chung	3 137	23%	6 046	16%
Kwai Fong	1 196	19%	2 161	12%
Kwai Hing	152	42%	246	28%
Kwai Luen	282	22%	509	16%
Kwai Shing (East)	1 360	22%	2 364	13%
Kwai Shing (West)	839	16%	1 562	10%

	CSSA household	Percentage to total household in public housing estate	CSSA recipient	Percentage to total population in public housing estate
Public housing estate				
Kwong Fuk	1 082	18%	2 077	11%
Kwong Tin	333	15%	611	8%
Kwong Yuen	656	44%	1 090	29%
Kwun Lung Lau	173	11%	285	7%
Kwun Tong Garden Estate	752	16%	1 283	9%
Lai King	730	18%	1 351	12%
Lai Kok	834	30%	1 315	19%
Lai On	283	21%	430	12%
Lai Tak Tsuen	209	8%	354	5%
Lai Yiu	474	17%	867	10%
Lakeside Garden	30	13%	57	8%
Lam Tin	695	23%	1 235	15%
Lee On	701	19%	1 343	12%
Lei Cheng Uk	628	46%	1 081	31%
Lei Muk Shue	1 884	18%	3 606	12%
Lei Tung	781	29%	1 241	18%
Lei Yue Mun	843	27%	1 665	18%
Lek Yuen	610	19%	1 076	13%
Leung King	1 013	32%	1 693	20%
Lok Fu	789	22%	1 268	12%
Lok Man Sun Chuen	472	13%	798	8%
Lok Wah (North)	350	12%	806	8%
Lok Wah (South)	1 955	30%	3 066	22%
Long Bin IH	140	26%	169	19%
Long Ping	1 275	28%	2 566	18%
Lower Wong Tai Sin (I)	983	55%	1 608	37%
Lower Wong Tai Sin (II)	974	15%	1 732	9%
Lung Hang	612	14%	1 332	9%
Lung Tin	111	30%	139	18%
Ma Hang	97	11%	196	7%
Ma Tau Wai	428	21%	782	15%
Mei Lam	778	19%	1 351	13%
Mei Tin	1 284	24%	2 610	17%
Mei Tung	391	28%	657	19%
Ming Tak	298	20%	514	12%
Ming Wah Dai Ha	238	10%	378	6%
Model Housing	106	16%	242	10%
Moon Lok Dai Ha	135	15%	235	10%
Nam Cheong	297	38%	514	24%

Public housing estate	CSSA household	Percentage to total household in public housing estate	CSSA recipient	Percentage to total population in public housing estate
Nam Shan	624	24%	1 057	15%
Nga Ning Court	62	15%	143	9%
Ngan Wan	67	16%	121	9%
Oi Man	859	14%	1 801	9%
Oi Tung	1 204	31%	1 859	20%
On Tin	147	20%	467	15%
On Ting	1 116	22%	1 788	14%
On Yam	861	17%	1 664	10%
Pak Tin	2 319	28%	3 851	16%
Ping Shek	652	14%	1 207	10%
Ping Tin	1 439	27%	2 327	15%
Po Lam	629	30%	1 201	19%
Po Tat	2 002	27%	4 116	18%
Po Tin	2 232	27%	2 547	22%
Pok Hong	549	42%	1 003	28%
Prosperous Garden	111	17%	133	8%
Sai Wan	58	9%	136	6%
Sam Shing	285	16%	551	11%
Sau Mau Ping (South)	895	23%	1 673	16%
Sau Mau Ping	3 248	27%	5 946	16%
Sha Kok	1 426	23%	2 405	16%
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	81	12%	170	6%
Shan King	1 548	24%	2 765	16%
Shatin Pass	187	19%	322	13%
Shek Kip Mei	1 494	31%	2 503	19%
Shek Lei (I)	1 159	24%	2 053	15%
Shek Lei (II)	1 974	24%	3 735	16%
Shek Mun	377	19%	686	14%
Shek Pai Wan	839	16%	1 497	9%
Shek Wai Kok	1 049	17%	2 000	12%
Shek Yam (East)	548	21%	834	10%
Shek Yam	683	29%	1 396	22%
Sheung Lok	162	50%	199	35%
Sheung Tak	1 175	21%	2 435	13%
Shin Ming	342	20%	537	15%
Shui Pin Wai	717	30%	1 207	20%
Shun Lee	759	17%	1 336	11%
Shun On	711	24%	1 211	16%
Shun Tin	1 395	20%	2 571	13%

	CSSA household	Percentage to total household in public housing estate	CSSA recipient	Percentage to total population in public housing estate
Public housing estate				
Siu Sai Wan	749	12%	1 519	7%
So Uk	172	17%	286	10%
Sun Chui	1 123	17%	2 123	11%
Sun Tin Wai	507	15%	998	10%
Tai Hang Tung	625	32%	928	18%
Tai Hing	1 952	23%	3 214	16%
Tai Ping	93	27%	224	18%
Tai Wo	893	41%	1 426	24%
Tai Wo Hau	1 411	19%	2 555	12%
Tai Yuen	809	17%	1 801	12%
Tak Tin	1 051	49%	1 534	35%
Tin Chak	1 096	28%	2 237	18%
Tin Ching	1 683	27%	3 310	20%
Tin Heng	1 300	23%	3 895	17%
Tin King	255	24%	510	16%
Tin Ping	455	35%	878	22%
Tin Shui	1 262	16%	2 525	10%
Tin Tsz	886	27%	1 412	15%
Tin Wah	985	27%	1 822	15%
Tin Wan	690	22%	1 078	12%
Tin Yan	1 687	31%	2 695	25%
Tin Yat	719	22%	2 132	17%
Tin Yiu	1 463	17%	2 896	11%
Tin Yuet	1 169	29%	2 427	19%
Tsing Yi	293	36%	483	23%
Tsui Lam	392	22%	831	15%
Tsui Lok	142	45%	240	30%
Tsui Ping (South)	743	16%	1 188	9%
Tsui Ping (North)	1 725	52%	2 741	35%
Tsui Wan	225	35%	369	22%
Tsz Ching	2 173	27%	3 591	15%
Tsz Hong	444	22%	1 251	16%
Tsz Lok	1 395	23%	2 413	13%
Tsz Man	400	21%	775	13%
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	24	10%	42	5%
Tung Tau	1 436	46%	2 124	29%
Un Chau	1 651	27%	2 470	16%
Upper Ngau Tau Kok	1 941	30%	3 000	18%
Upper Wong Tai Sin	1 316	28%	2 133	16%

Public housing estate	CSSA household	Percentage to total household in public housing estate	CSSA recipient	Percentage to total population in public housing estate
Verbena Heights	217	23%	296	15%
Wah Fu	1 225	14%	2 348	9%
Wah Kwai	435	39%	647	24%
Wah Lai	275	19%	658	14%
Wah Ming	746	39%	1 291	23%
Wah Sum	345	23%	696	14%
Wan Hon	523	55%	787	40%
Wan Tau Tong	320	45%	469	27%
Wan Tsui	635	18%	1 209	11%
Wang Tau Hom	848	15%	1 576	9%
Wo Che	977	16%	2 144	11%
Wo Lok	425	23%	730	16%
Wu King	540	13%	1 272	9%
Yan On	390	16%	699	12%
Yat Tung	2 292	20%	5 798	14%
Yau Lai	1 706	22%	3 327	16%
Yau Oi	1 572	17%	3 064	11%
Yau Tong	998	28%	1 921	18%
Yiu On	403	33%	732	20%
Yiu Tung	892	17%	1 488	9%
Yue Kwong Chuen	89	9%	129	5%
Yue Wan	425	20%	768	12%
Yung Shing Court	471	28%	988	16%
Total	165 643	23%	302 632	14%

(c) (i) We do not have the CSSA expenditure breakdown by geographical district. The numbers of households on CSSA by nature of cases by geographical district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central & Western	2 294	234	277	191	92	300	61	3 449
Eastern	8 591	1 170	1 042	1 391	561	871	287	13 913
Islands	1 747	228	396	819	464	618	197	4 469
Kowloon City	7 670	841	1 021	1 213	421	1 143	244	12 553
Kwai Tsing	14 906	2 281	2 194	2 982	1 497	2 417	551	26 828
Kwun Tong	22 061	1 624	2 926	4 614	1 854	2 924	743	36 746
North	7 799	942	1 338	2 055	533	1 266	465	14 398
Sai Kung	4 284	871	950	1 237	592	795	368	9 097
Sha Tin	8 977	1 459	1 964	2 439	769	1 331	620	17 559
Sham Shui Po	13 759	1 078	2 493	2 419	969	3 358	605	24 681
Southern	5 075	1 182	725	665	327	340	210	8 524
Tai Po	5 943	509	975	1 083	295	623	253	9 681
Tsuen Wan	5 054	416	594	963	351	581	217	8 176
Tuen Mun	11 284	2 220	2 301	2 345	596	2 068	540	21 354
Wan Chai	1 273	79	131	98	38	251	94	1 964
Wong Tai Sin	13 010	1 146	1 859	2 603	1 083	1 733	415	21 849
Yau Tsim Mong	5 210	334	1 056	973	279	2 421	384	10 657
Yuen Long	12 607	1 770	2 831	4 613	1 436	3 478	760	27 495
Total ^[Note 2]	151 544	18 384	25 073	32 703	12 157	26 518	7 014	273 393

[Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

(c) (ii) The numbers of CSSA recipients by nature of cases by geographical district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows -

Geographical district ^[Note 1]	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central & Western	2 361	261	345	458	341	323	79	4 168
Eastern	10 500	1 610	1 753	3 373	1 879	1 521	383	21 019
Islands	2 332	388	917	2 121	1 565	1 475	247	9 045
Kowloon City	8 880	1 041	1 431	2 987	1 387	1 798	395	17 919
Kwai Tsing	19 774	3 319	3 870	7 453	5 114	4 737	962	45 229
Kwun Tong	30 317	2 415	5 268	11 144	6 072	5 948	1 222	62 386
North	9 976	1 330	2 263	5 070	1 703	2 456	713	23 511
Sai Kung	5 677	1 210	1 872	3 100	2 001	1 675	401	15 936
Sha Tin	11 646	2 128	3 715	5 957	2 543	2 748	1 208	29 945
Sham Shui Po	17 097	1 548	3 392	5 808	3 030	4 794	961	36 630
Southern	6 086	1 520	1 113	1 591	1 032	590	266	12 198
Tai Po	7 366	788	1 786	2 542	986	1 140	383	14 991
Tsuen Wan	6 344	610	990	2 318	1 172	919	361	12 714
Tuen Mun	14 644	2 749	3 495	5 523	1 907	3 482	749	32 549
Wan Chai	1 298	80	134	238	139	253	96	2 238
Wong Tai Sin	17 115	1 717	3 086	6 371	3 471	3 184	609	35 553
Yau Tsim Mong	5 761	415	1 266	2 235	863	2 727	555	13 822
Yuen Long	16 797	2 677	5 127	11 313	4 904	7 028	1 158	49 004
Total ^[Note 2]	193 971	25 806	41 823	79 602	40 109	46 798	10 748	438 857

[Note 1] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 2] Excluding cases under the Portable CSSA Scheme.

(d) (i) We do not have the CSSA expenditure breakdown by public housing estate. The numbers of households on CSSA by nature of cases in each of the public housing estates as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Ap Lei Chau	258	71	51	106	37	33	23	579
Bo Shek Mansion	58	1	1	6	3	-	-	69
Broadview Garden	13	3	3	4	4	-	-	27
Butterfly	789	66	111	206	27	110	27	1 336
Chai Wan	267	12	23	45	13	25	5	390
Chak On	348	8	41	74	8	37	4	520
Cheung Ching	332	37	50	80	46	69	17	631
Cheung Fat	255	28	36	40	17	32	4	412
Cheung Hang	343	42	51	60	30	64	10	600
Cheung Hong	899	82	84	172	51	113	23	1 424
Cheung Kwai	27	3	8	8	9	11	-	66
Cheung On	307	45	51	44	16	41	9	513
Cheung Shan	103	11	11	17	18	8	2	170
Cheung Wah	445	26	77	101	40	61	13	763
Cheung Wang	356	67	103	165	103	141	16	951
Ching Ho	851	58	175	548	144	247	53	2 076
Cho Yiu Chuen	190	7	8	11	14	17	1	248
Choi Fai	89	7	26	19	17	24	2	184
Choi Fook	362	21	36	158	47	86	25	735
Choi Ha	158	14	15	17	9	22	-	235
Choi Hung	904	53	132	231	77	100	15	1 512
Choi Ming Court	272	50	85	100	75	71	9	662
Choi Tak	553	22	48	242	46	82	37	1 030
Choi Wan (I)	411	46	95	138	56	79	20	845
Choi Wan (II)	235	9	43	85	30	36	8	446
Choi Ying	491	23	68	222	42	124	15	985
Choi Yuen	840	54	106	182	28	105	26	1 341
Chuk Yuen (North)	340	36	77	58	25	63	16	615
Chuk Yuen (South)	883	62	127	281	65	107	15	1 540
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	102	5	3	8	3	14	-	135
Chun Shek	274	19	45	53	20	27	6	444
Chung On	259	60	80	94	39	68	28	628
Clague Garden Estate	64	-	1	6	2	4	-	77
Easeful Court	17	4	8	12	12	11	2	66
Fortune	557	29	71	41	33	63	7	801
Fu Cheong	1 360	64	194	188	128	165	12	2 111

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Fu Heng	419	49	108	79	22	73	4	754
Fu Shan	180	15	25	41	14	20	2	297
Fu Shin	448	38	93	137	25	60	14	815
Fu Tai	393	95	99	171	113	162	17	1 050
Fu Tung	81	14	20	46	15	15	2	193
Fuk Loi	365	24	47	72	16	27	10	561
Fung Tak	472	30	87	45	19	54	8	715
Fung Wah	89	12	14	9	5	11	4	144
Grandeur Terrace	141	28	103	326	136	184	19	937
Hau Tak	364	41	77	87	42	70	5	686
Healthy Village	106	5	10	12	9	2	2	146
Heng On	223	13	58	61	25	30	19	429
High Prosperity Terrace	9	1	8	22	21	9	1	71
Hin Keng	199	26	46	43	26	25	12	377
Hin Yiu	94	13	28	52	7	16	5	215
Hing Man	135	25	24	56	30	28	6	304
Hing Tin	85	8	21	30	24	14	3	185
Hing Tung	193	13	33	47	11	16	2	315
Hing Wah (I)	264	60	46	49	36	39	3	497
Hing Wah (II)	528	54	50	113	22	45	8	820
Ho Man Tin	623	60	113	104	69	68	20	1 057
Hoi Fu Court	594	24	63	94	55	80	8	918
Hoi Lai	292	35	82	210	145	147	15	926
Hong Tung	212	2	3	5	1	3	-	226
Hung Hom	354	12	34	40	21	37	3	501
Jat Min Chuen	357	20	39	29	17	28	5	495
Ka Fuk	252	25	33	43	16	47	5	421
Ka Wai Chuen	245	6	23	17	14	18	-	323
Kai Tin	334	32	53	47	24	40	4	534
Kai Yip	794	38	66	132	19	53	11	1 113
Kam Peng	33	2	3	4	2	7	-	51
Kin Ming	395	96	206	350	152	209	15	1 423
Kin Sang	98	12	32	27	11	19	3	202
King Lam	447	62	81	59	23	65	4	741
Ko Cheung Court	46	9	33	110	47	40	7	292
Ko Yee	199	10	13	28	13	18	2	283
Kwai Chung	1 216	216	305	648	262	425	65	3 137
Kwai Fong	641	102	125	113	87	111	17	1 196
Kwai Hing	97	9	13	15	5	10	3	152
Kwai Luen	125	10	19	59	16	37	16	282

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Kwai Shing (East)	739	92	117	146	94	154	18	1 360
Kwai Shing (West)	465	44	69	121	36	89	15	839
Kwong Fuk	537	57	127	189	58	84	30	1 082
Kwong Tin	165	18	40	48	20	32	10	333
Kwong Yuen	340	69	82	65	22	49	29	656
Kwun Lung Lau	106	7	11	12	14	21	2	173
Kwun Tong Garden Estate	514	25	63	50	38	58	4	752
Lai King	439	36	49	85	46	63	12	730
Lai Kok	506	40	62	130	19	63	14	834
Lai On	181	23	24	25	11	18	1	283
Lai Tak Tsuen	134	19	21	12	11	12	-	209
Lai Yiu	278	27	31	47	40	42	9	474
Lakeside Garden	18	2	5	2	2	1	-	30
Lam Tin	403	11	49	125	44	52	11	695
Lee On	298	53	134	107	35	61	13	701
Lei Cheng Uk	349	34	42	84	27	85	7	628
Lei Muk Shue	843	110	188	337	169	197	40	1 884
Lei Tung	442	59	80	98	25	53	24	781
Lei Yue Mun	424	32	78	143	63	87	16	843
Lek Yuen	317	44	50	101	20	57	21	610
Leung King	548	64	111	116	29	118	27	1 013
Lok Fu	411	63	93	105	38	71	8	789
Lok Man Sun Chuen	315	23	31	28	17	53	5	472
Lok Wah (North)	159	24	40	55	31	35	6	350
Lok Wah (South)	1 483	53	104	181	24	95	15	1 955
Long Bin IH	32	9	16	10	-	67	6	140
Long Ping	569	63	117	275	83	140	28	1 275
Lower Wong Tai Sin (I)	537	57	94	146	47	88	14	983
Lower Wong Tai Sin (II)	485	62	84	162	52	110	19	974
Lung Hang	236	21	71	109	64	65	46	612
Lung Tin	69	13	8	7	2	12	-	111
Ma Hang	44	4	13	17	8	9	2	97
Ma Tau Wai	223	22	39	97	14	29	4	428
Mei Lam	413	36	84	137	32	57	19	778
Mei Tin	394	59	153	341	112	177	48	1 284
Mei Tung	248	9	30	54	13	26	11	391
Ming Tak	172	18	24	36	19	26	3	298
Ming Wah Dai Ha	167	13	19	10	9	20	-	238
Model Housing	49	9	9	14	14	8	3	106
Moon Lok Dai Ha	96	4	11	9	5	9	1	135

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Nam Cheong	172	17	33	30	11	32	2	297
Nam Shan	348	21	61	114	18	46	16	624
Nga Ning Court	16	1	4	17	8	13	3	62
Ngan Wan	32	4	7	13	4	7	-	67
Oi Man	370	52	108	175	53	91	10	859
Oi Tung	781	82	90	142	55	45	9	1 204
On Tin	23	3	9	46	34	27	5	147
On Ting	646	78	109	140	29	94	20	1 116
On Yam	498	61	69	65	67	80	21	861
Pak Tin	1 417	59	223	266	126	191	37	2 319
Ping Shek	411	35	51	71	27	53	4	652
Ping Tin	875	65	134	161	71	112	21	1 439
Po Lam	310	45	58	120	41	49	6	629
Po Tat	1 045	68	179	275	188	219	28	2 002
Po Tin	1 092	140	367	123	15	469	26	2 232
Pok Hong	296	14	72	86	29	40	12	549
Prosperous Garden	100	1	3	2	2	2	1	111
Sai Wan	27	1	12	5	6	5	2	58
Sam Shing	142	20	20	57	12	25	9	285
Sau Mau Ping (South)	426	19	76	189	61	102	22	895
Sau Mau Ping	1 913	132	279	356	234	280	54	3 248
Sha Kok	819	81	141	186	35	93	71	1 426
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	41	5	10	5	8	9	3	81
Shan King	822	86	150	245	52	154	39	1 548
Shatin Pass	97	5	17	41	7	18	2	187
Shek Kip Mei	933	44	151	167	71	104	24	1 494
Shek Lei (I)	670	98	83	147	59	80	22	1 159
Shek Lei (II)	955	112	162	267	169	256	53	1 974
Shek Mun	109	10	48	112	16	60	22	377
Shek Pai Wan	477	67	80	71	76	49	19	839
Shek Wai Kok	600	45	98	168	48	67	23	1 049
Shek Yam (East)	355	41	38	36	22	50	6	548
Shek Yam	391	52	51	70	56	58	5	683
Sheung Lok	132	9	2	10	-	8	1	162
Sheung Tak	546	62	124	162	128	135	18	1 175
Shin Ming	137	22	33	85	17	36	12	342
Shui Pin Wai	490	23	50	86	15	44	9	717
Shun Lee	458	30	47	104	35	77	8	759
Shun On	458	28	46	74	33	62	10	711
Shun Tin	847	60	121	159	68	120	20	1 395

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Siu Sai Wan	313	84	84	126	61	68	13	749
So Uk	93	7	18	14	14	25	1	172
Sun Chui	612	58	104	165	61	101	22	1 123
Sun Tin Wai	256	30	47	92	34	34	14	507
Tai Hang Tung	434	20	62	44	21	37	7	625
Tai Hing	1 209	80	163	245	56	168	31	1 952
Tai Ping	34	6	14	19	4	15	1	93
Tai Wo	586	32	103	79	22	52	19	893
Tai Wo Hau	788	99	130	169	68	131	26	1 411
Tai Yuen	359	44	139	113	62	76	16	809
Tak Tin	732	32	106	74	29	64	14	1 051
Tin Chak	445	54	132	207	73	165	20	1 096
Tin Ching	630	60	160	432	98	236	67	1 683
Tin Heng	225	43	152	383	216	261	20	1 300
Tin King	93	15	27	63	15	31	11	255
Tin Ping	218	31	52	79	22	45	8	455
Tin Shui	562	65	131	245	90	139	30	1 262
Tin Tsz	510	52	93	105	31	79	16	886
Tin Wah	503	54	113	132	59	108	16	985
Tin Wan	417	58	80	53	30	35	17	690
Tin Yan	701	94	200	353	52	269	18	1 687
Tin Yat	131	34	62	222	127	130	13	719
Tin Yiu	612	61	190	283	87	192	38	1 463
Tin Yuet	472	47	128	200	126	182	14	1 169
Tsing Yi	177	20	25	32	9	27	3	293
Tsui Lam	155	22	48	101	31	31	4	392
Tsui Lok	116	5	6	11	1	2	1	142
Tsui Ping (South)	486	28	53	69	43	52	12	743
Tsui Ping (North)	1 050	68	190	197	61	141	18	1 725
Tsui Wan	128	30	15	28	5	16	3	225
Tsz Ching	1 337	70	189	215	172	166	24	2 173
Tsz Hong	123	12	38	114	90	60	7	444
Tsz Lok	855	61	126	163	69	107	14	1 395
Tsz Man	212	15	43	47	33	43	7	400
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	11	-	6	2	3	-	2	24
Tung Tau	963	67	105	127	39	121	14	1 436
Un Chau	1 159	68	131	95	58	124	16	1 651
Upper Ngau Tau Kok	1 381	76	160	100	58	152	14	1 941
Upper Wong Tai Sin	810	79	102	126	76	103	20	1 316
Verbena Heights	159	8	17	6	3	22	2	217

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Wah Fu	607	103	123	209	95	64	24	1 225
Wah Kwai	295	31	36	28	21	22	2	435
Wah Lai	100	19	35	45	35	33	8	275
Wah Ming	397	44	87	99	31	76	12	746
Wah Sum	168	28	51	47	19	31	1	345
Wan Hon	470	6	10	16	7	9	5	523
Wan Tau Tong	201	34	27	33	7	17	1	320
Wan Tsui	327	50	58	99	38	52	11	635
Wang Tau Hom	413	68	72	127	53	91	24	848
Wo Che	386	79	164	159	67	90	32	977
Wo Lok	248	27	40	58	17	31	4	425
Wu King	190	26	67	117	40	86	14	540
Yan On	120	15	48	116	16	60	15	390
Yat Tung	546	106	252	578	377	392	41	2 292
Yau Lai	839	28	131	400	127	141	40	1 706
Yau Oi	744	90	145	250	90	212	41	1 572
Yau Tong	527	47	104	131	88	92	9	998
Yiu On	180	30	74	62	12	32	13	403
Yiu Tung	536	60	98	87	47	54	10	892
Yue Kwong Chuen	53	8	10	7	2	7	2	89
Yue Wan	210	35	31	82	27	32	8	425
Yung Shing Court	231	23	52	48	47	65	5	471
Total	88 424	8 463	15 828	24 066	9 836	16 076	2 950	165 643

(d) (ii) The numbers of CSSA recipients by nature of cases in each of the public housing estates as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Ap Lei Chau	378	147	115	251	121	66	37	1 115
Bo Shek Mansion	71	3	1	15	10	-	-	100
Broadview Garden	21	4	3	8	5	-	-	41
Butterfly	1 173	94	199	418	69	176	34	2 163
Chai Wan	324	21	46	110	34	41	6	582
Chak On	528	13	61	154	21	59	4	840
Cheung Ching	576	73	95	213	148	159	31	1 295
Cheung Fat	337	55	58	99	45	46	5	645
Cheung Hang	498	68	93	155	84	104	10	1 012
Cheung Hong	1 389	146	163	399	150	239	40	2 526
Cheung Kwai	41	5	12	19	34	23	-	134
Cheung On	444	62	72	109	33	62	12	794
Cheung Shan	198	23	24	52	71	16	2	386
Cheung Wah	701	37	140	236	115	124	21	1 374
Cheung Wang	587	121	198	403	315	289	35	1 948
Ching Ho	1 195	108	404	1 360	481	587	99	4 234
Cho Yiu Chuen	282	12	9	28	56	34	3	424
Choi Fai	134	8	33	55	57	59	4	350
Choi Fook	471	38	54	366	150	187	40	1 306
Choi Ha	213	18	25	47	28	45	-	376
Choi Hung	1 399	84	227	532	239	190	25	2 696
Choi Ming Court	429	93	180	254	239	161	22	1 378
Choi Tak	725	31	79	550	136	181	56	1 758
Choi Wan (I)	719	82	192	337	182	173	46	1 731
Choi Wan (II)	409	17	99	203	82	79	13	902
Choi Ying	684	36	125	517	141	254	29	1 786
Choi Yuen	1 300	94	197	404	88	189	39	2 311
Chuk Yuen (North)	470	52	139	155	81	111	22	1 030
Chuk Yuen (South)	1 295	99	235	621	201	200	20	2 671
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	157	7	7	20	12	27	-	230
Chun Shek	366	32	90	117	59	38	13	715
Chung On	336	131	189	232	150	185	66	1 289
Clague Garden Estate	111	-	2	20	5	11	-	149
Easeful Court	43	12	29	34	49	43	9	219
Fortune	670	39	95	115	101	117	9	1 146
Fu Cheong	1 769	126	291	465	370	399	14	3 434

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Fu Heng	589	77	224	207	84	132	10	1 323
Fu Shan	251	25	46	101	49	32	4	508
Fu Shin	717	58	207	299	98	122	19	1 520
Fu Tai	644	194	268	483	424	453	34	2 500
Fu Tung	120	33	68	120	51	28	2	422
Fuk Loi	542	44	99	179	40	47	20	971
Fung Tak	589	55	133	109	44	89	12	1 031
Fung Wah	113	18	21	23	19	24	8	226
Grandeur Terrace	358	86	333	874	478	568	43	2 740
Hau Tak	508	72	170	236	126	171	8	1 291
Healthy Village	144	6	22	33	25	3	1	234
Heng On	316	27	141	166	72	52	30	804
High Prosperity Terrace	21	2	29	64	83	30	2	231
Hin Keng	337	48	88	97	75	49	19	713
Hin Yiu	138	20	62	123	23	20	13	399
Hing Man	218	42	46	133	117	62	12	630
Hing Tin	142	14	55	73	79	22	3	388
Hing Tung	268	22	69	114	45	45	2	565
Hing Wah (I)	364	97	89	130	136	95	2	913
Hing Wah (II)	810	80	97	252	63	69	9	1 380
Ho Man Tin	816	87	170	260	235	146	29	1 743
Hoi Fu Court	866	46	120	229	195	220	11	1 687
Hoi Lai	527	103	216	575	503	420	35	2 379
Hong Tung	258	2	5	10	3	7	-	285
Hung Hom	465	18	65	94	65	84	6	797
Jat Min Chuen	528	39	63	73	53	38	9	803
Ka Fuk	323	45	69	124	64	112	13	750
Ka Wai Chuen	333	13	46	40	39	27	-	498
Kai Tin	430	52	96	116	79	72	7	852
Kai Yip	1 188	51	102	281	54	83	15	1 774
Kam Peng	50	3	6	8	7	18	-	92
Kin Ming	611	165	483	924	570	471	27	3 251
Kin Sang	148	24	49	64	39	23	4	351
King Lam	558	91	129	136	74	99	8	1 095
Ko Cheung Court	147	25	98	277	160	140	20	867
Ko Yee	258	19	24	70	38	41	2	452
Kwai Chung	1 715	352	608	1 568	866	811	126	6 046
Kwai Fong	846	164	232	299	352	239	29	2 161
Kwai Hing	146	10	20	33	20	15	2	246
Kwai Luen	152	21	40	144	55	64	33	509

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Kwai Shing (East)	991	136	211	385	316	301	24	2 364
Kwai Shing (West)	737	77	150	294	125	156	23	1 562
Kwong Fuk	842	121	258	451	177	168	60	2 077
Kwong Tin	230	30	89	127	62	56	17	611
Kwong Yuen	404	110	142	177	64	117	76	1 090
Kwun Lung Lau	136	12	15	29	55	32	6	285
Kwun Tong Garden Estate	741	44	124	119	115	128	12	1 283
Lai King	669	55	90	216	178	127	16	1 351
Lai Kok	726	62	103	267	45	92	20	1 315
Lai On	220	37	41	61	35	33	3	430
Lai Tak Tsuen	203	30	39	24	32	26	-	354
Lai Yiu	411	52	63	109	119	95	18	867
Lakeside Garden	28	8	7	6	7	1	-	57
Lam Tin	556	23	100	315	125	92	24	1 235
Lee On	413	73	276	299	124	133	25	1 343
Lei Cheng Uk	506	60	68	200	80	160	7	1 081
Lei Muk Shue	1 220	203	354	815	593	346	75	3 606
Lei Tung	634	108	111	214	70	77	27	1 241
Lei Yue Mun	661	57	161	357	208	191	30	1 665
Lek Yuen	422	89	112	230	61	112	50	1 076
Leung King	757	93	208	277	98	217	43	1 693
Lok Fu	519	88	162	252	110	127	10	1 268
Lok Man Sun Chuen	484	40	48	71	53	92	10	798
Lok Wah (North)	302	48	95	154	110	90	7	806
Lok Wah (South)	2 250	80	156	372	54	134	20	3 066
Long Bin IH	35	11	20	22	-	72	9	169
Long Ping	949	128	252	644	269	273	51	2 566
Lower Wong Tai Sin (I)	691	90	148	365	139	154	21	1 608
Lower Wong Tai Sin (II)	692	109	135	416	153	190	37	1 732
Lung Hang	340	39	162	294	228	156	113	1 332
Lung Tin	70	16	11	12	6	24	-	139
Ma Hang	58	11	20	50	29	26	2	196
Ma Tau Wai	351	38	70	222	40	52	9	782
Mei Lam	588	60	167	302	97	98	39	1 351
Mei Tin	515	93	300	833	381	388	100	2 610
Mei Tung	340	19	53	124	44	58	19	657
Ming Tak	222	28	51	93	68	48	4	514
Ming Wah Dai Ha	237	20	35	23	29	34	-	378
Model Housing	77	14	20	39	64	22	6	242
Moon Lok Dai Ha	155	4	24	20	16	11	5	235

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Nam Cheong	253	34	52	71	44	59	1	514
Nam Shan	518	42	96	256	55	63	27	1 057
Nga Ning Court	23	2	10	49	25	27	7	143
Ngan Wan	45	9	17	30	11	9	-	121
Oi Man	620	109	243	449	169	195	16	1 801
Oi Tung	980	133	139	345	182	69	11	1 859
On Tin	60	10	26	123	136	96	16	467
On Ting	899	112	181	321	85	159	31	1 788
On Yam	719	127	152	189	230	190	57	1 664
Pak Tin	1 936	90	337	673	378	375	62	3 851
Ping Shek	661	56	95	166	97	127	5	1 207
Ping Tin	1 141	93	240	403	226	189	35	2 327
Po Lam	492	79	110	271	123	113	13	1 201
Po Tat	1 604	124	392	729	657	550	60	4 116
Po Tin	1 233	146	393	248	29	466	32	2 547
Pok Hong	462	19	127	198	96	82	19	1 003
Prosperous Garden	105	-	9	5	7	3	4	133
Sai Wan	53	1	37	14	19	7	5	136
Sam Shing	246	43	28	134	33	51	16	551
Sau Mau Ping (South)	602	47	138	455	202	182	47	1 673
Sau Mau Ping	2 698	243	548	917	799	637	104	5 946
Sha Kok	1 121	145	254	429	103	195	158	2 405
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	66	14	16	19	31	21	3	170
Shan King	1 297	142	293	538	154	279	62	2 765
Shatin Pass	120	11	28	102	27	30	4	322
Shek Kip Mei	1 346	72	256	391	199	187	52	2 503
Shek Lei (I)	986	177	159	338	194	152	47	2 053
Shek Lei (II)	1 352	200	281	702	590	502	108	3 735
Shek Mun	134	14	89	261	44	97	47	686
Shek Pai Wan	649	120	146	181	244	124	33	1 497
Shek Wai Kok	1 002	79	197	407	152	127	36	2 000
Shek Yam (East)	434	69	60	103	78	77	13	834
Shek Yam	596	124	113	188	217	143	15	1 396
Sheung Lok	156	11	3	22	-	7	-	199
Sheung Tak	761	123	271	449	451	344	36	2 435
Shin Ming	174	29	50	171	42	57	14	537
Shui Pin Wai	695	49	100	190	57	100	16	1 207
Shun Lee	709	49	98	224	107	137	12	1 336
Shun On	703	54	86	168	85	100	15	1 211
Shun Tin	1 343	116	217	382	211	269	33	2 571

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Siu Sai Wan	460	145	171	353	207	156	27	1 519
So Uk	153	13	30	26	36	27	1	286
Sun Chui	948	100	210	394	194	241	36	2 123
Sun Tin Wai	383	64	107	223	116	71	34	998
Tai Hang Tung	543	33	98	110	84	52	8	928
Tai Hing	1 810	124	264	550	159	261	46	3 214
Tai Ping	64	15	35	53	18	38	1	224
Tai Wo	793	54	213	170	59	107	30	1 426
Tai Wo Hau	1 176	162	274	398	223	287	35	2 555
Tai Yuen	625	108	344	285	219	189	31	1 801
Tak Tin	942	48	155	180	96	101	12	1 534
Tin Chak	682	98	301	542	226	353	35	2 237
Tin Ching	908	111	346	1 030	293	506	116	3 310
Tin Heng	627	134	481	1 014	766	826	47	3 895
Tin King	157	40	52	144	57	48	12	510
Tin Ping	358	63	105	193	60	86	13	878
Tin Shui	890	130	250	617	303	287	48	2 525
Tin Tsz	678	79	157	250	95	131	22	1 412
Tin Wah	678	118	208	342	201	245	30	1 822
Tin Wan	536	89	132	137	100	57	27	1 078
Tin Yan	952	119	287	790	155	365	27	2 695
Tin Yat	341	119	178	578	463	432	21	2 132
Tin Yiu	970	111	394	677	281	400	63	2 896
Tin Yuet	698	85	238	496	437	443	30	2 427
Tsing Yi	243	29	52	81	30	42	6	483
Tsui Lam	263	43	108	242	115	57	3	831
Tsui Lok	191	7	13	23	3	2	1	240
Tsui Ping (South)	609	50	95	190	123	104	17	1 188
Tsui Ping (North)	1 471	90	299	442	178	231	30	2 741
Tsui Wan	180	48	24	70	23	22	2	369
Tsz Ching	1 713	121	300	551	529	337	40	3 591
Tsz Hong	301	34	104	304	323	176	9	1 251
Tsz Lok	1 187	132	224	409	227	210	24	2 413
Tsz Man	316	30	80	132	117	92	8	775
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	17	-	7	5	9	-	4	42
Tung Tau	1 250	85	145	296	122	208	18	2 124
Un Chau	1 475	107	197	250	191	221	29	2 470
Upper Ngau Tau Kok	1 819	91	276	266	183	341	24	3 000
Upper Wong Tai Sin	1 112	119	150	302	243	172	35	2 133
Verbena Heights	196	10	26	14	10	35	5	296

Public housing estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low-earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Wah Fu	956	192	253	509	286	114	38	2 348
Wah Kwai	368	56	59	59	64	39	2	647
Wah Lai	158	48	92	135	117	92	16	658
Wah Ming	556	88	157	248	76	149	17	1 291
Wah Sum	261	61	122	130	62	58	2	696
Wan Hon	679	8	14	35	21	23	7	787
Wan Tau Tong	267	43	39	73	22	24	1	469
Wan Tsui	522	93	117	228	130	98	21	1 209
Wang Tau Hom	570	123	139	349	186	175	34	1 576
Wo Che	600	191	407	428	233	217	68	2 144
Wo Lok	369	50	75	137	47	49	3	730
Wu King	351	56	166	306	130	241	22	1 272
Yan On	151	24	72	272	46	108	26	699
Yat Tung	951	220	638	1 537	1 287	1 068	97	5 798
Yau Lai	1 233	50	286	933	458	291	76	3 327
Yau Oi	1 144	183	306	597	299	462	73	3 064
Yau Tong	819	92	193	315	278	205	19	1 921
Yiu On	254	50	148	154	40	61	25	732
Yiu Tung	681	100	184	208	174	125	16	1 488
Yue Kwong Chuen	67	14	13	19	5	5	6	129
Yue Wan	308	59	75	202	57	54	13	768
Yung Shing Court	304	63	93	150	187	184	7	988
Total	127 657	14 896	30 405	58 958	32 411	33 024	5 281	302 632

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the recipients belonging to the unemployment and low-earnings categories under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the number of CSSA unemployed recipients, their gender, age distribution, number of years of receiving CSSA, nature of job and wage in the past as well as residing district in 2011-12; and
- (b) the number of CSSA low-earnings recipients, their gender, age distribution, number of years of receiving CSSA, nature of job and wage as well as residing district in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) Statistics on CSSA unemployed recipients ^[Note 1], with breakdown by selected profiles as at the end of January 2012, were as follows –

Table 1: CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by gender

Gender	Number of recipients
Male	16 328
Female	11 433
Total	27 761

Table 2: CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by age group

Age group	Number of recipients
15 – 19	1 151
20 – 29	1 899
30 – 39	3 168
40 – 49	8 167
50 – 59	13 376
Total	27 761

Table 3: CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	Number of recipients
1 or less	3 447
More than 1 - 2	2 650
More than 2 - 3	2 880
More than 3 - 4	2 024
More than 4 - 5	1 489
More than 5	15 271
Total	27 761

Table 4: CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by occupation

Occupation	Number of recipients
Cleaner	281
Clerk	30
Construction worker/ labourer/decoration worker	62
Delivery worker	218
Domestic helper/baby sitter	176
Driver	76
General worker/labourer (other than those of construction)	647
Salesperson	108
Waiter/waitress	118
Watchman/guard	20
Others	543
Jobless	25 482
Total	27 761

Table 5: CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by employment earnings

Employment earnings	Number of recipients
\$ 0	25 482
Less than \$1,685 ^[Note 1]	2 279
Total	27 761

Table 6: CSSA unemployed recipients with breakdown by geographical district

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Number of recipients
Central & Western	236
Eastern	1 070
Islands	593
Kowloon City	1 110
Kwai Tsing	2 449
Kwun Tong	3 465
North	1 434
Sai Kung	865
Sha Tin	1 693
Sham Shui Po	3 129
Southern	438
Tai Po	718
Tsuen Wan	541
Tuen Mun	1 966
Wan Chai	205
Wong Tai Sin	2 148
Yau Tsim Mong	1 905
Yuen Long	3 796
Total	27 761

- (b) Statistics on CSSA low-earnings recipients ^[Note 3], with breakdown by selected profiles as at the end of January 2012, were as follows –

Table 1: CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by gender

Gender	Number of recipients
Male	8 762
Female	8 903
Total	17 665

Table 2: CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by age group

Age group	Number of recipients
15 – 19	765
20 – 29	2 577
30 – 39	2 941
40 – 49	7 161
50 – 59	4 221
Total	17 665

Table 3: CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	Number of recipients
1 or less	1 096
More than 1 - 2	1 211
More than 2 - 3	1 473
More than 3 - 4	1 086
More than 4 - 5	1 004
More than 5	11 795
Total	17 665

Table 4: CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by occupation

Occupation	Number of recipients
Cleaner	2 332
Clerk	762
Construction worker/ labourer/decoration worker	685
Delivery worker	932
Domestic helper/baby sitter	449
Driver	814
General worker/labourer (other than those of construction)	4 061
Salesperson	1 267
Waiter/waitress	1 114
Watchman/guard	1 221
Others	4 028
Total	17 665

Table 5: CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by employment earnings

Employment earnings	Number of recipients
\$1,685 ^[Note 3] – less than \$4,200	6 638
\$4,200 – less than \$6,000	4 210
\$6,000 – less than \$8,000	4 332
\$8,000 or above	2 485
Total	17 665

Table 6: CSSA low-earnings recipients with breakdown by geographical district

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Number of recipients
Central & Western	114
Eastern	727
Islands	551
Kowloon City	595
Kwai Tsing	2 145
Kwun Tong	2 664
North	875
Sai Kung	855
Sha Tin	1 130
Sham Shui Po	1 332
Southern	356
Tai Po	524
Tsuen Wan	549
Tuen Mun	989
Wan Chai	47
Wong Tai Sin	1 568
Yau Tsim Mong	384
Yuen Long	2 260
Total	17 665

[Note 1] CSSA unemployed recipients refer to those who are unemployed or who are gainfully employed but with employment earnings less than the standard rate of an able-bodied adult in a family comprising not more than two able-bodied adults/children (i.e. \$1,685 with effect from 1 February 2011 until 31 January 2012).

[Note 2] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils.

[Note 3] CSSA low-earnings recipients refer to those who are gainfully employed and with employment earnings equivalent to or more than the standard rate of an able-bodied adult in a family comprising not more than two able-bodied adults/children (i.e. \$1,685 with effect from 1 February 2011 until 31 January 2012).

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)543

Question Serial No.

0225

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will continue to oversee and improve the provision of the short-term food assistance service. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the number of individuals applying for and receiving food assistance in 2011 by 18 districts and by month;
- (b) the manpower and expenditure involved in the service points by 18 districts;
- (c) the number of service points providing canned food, fresh food or food coupons at present; and
- (d) with regard to an additional funding of \$100 million as stated in paragraph 59(6) of the Financial Secretary's Budget Speech, whether the Administration would consider extending the existing six-week service duration for the recipients.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned five non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in February 2009 to operate five short-term food assistance service projects (the Projects) covering the whole territory to help individuals and families who have difficulties coping with their daily food expenditure. Since the operating NGOs only submit statistics of their service areas, SWD cannot provide the information by District Council district. The number of beneficiaries of the Projects in 2011, broken down by service district and by month, is as follows –

Operating NGO	Service districts	Number of beneficiaries from January to December 2011											
		Jan 2011	Feb 2011	Mar 2011	Apr 2011	May 2011	Jun 2011	Jul 2011	Aug 2011	Sep 2011	Oct 2011	Nov 2011	Dec 2011
Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service	Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin and Sai Kung	554	260	598	331	363	282	292	326	437	475	551	418
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	Kowloon City, Yau Tsim Mong and Sham Shui Po	560	430	844	688	683	666	629	930	967	1 149	1 534	943
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council	Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tin Shui Wai	515	406	934	716	798	710	718	738	886	891	717	783
Hong Kong Women Development Association Limited	Sha Tin, Tai Po and North	164	131	410	221	302	281	186	236	238	347	195	167
St James' Settlement	Hong Kong, Outlying Islands and Tung Chung, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing	306	242	441	316	344	330	338	317	381	486	413	466

- (b) The allocations to the NGO operators include administration fees that should not exceed 15% of the total operational expenses. The NGO operators are given the flexibility to employ staff according to their operational needs.
- (c) As at the end of December 2011, there were 412 service points covering the whole territory, of which 113 were also venues for food distribution.
- (d) Service users normally receive food assistance for a maximum period of six weeks. The operating NGOs may extend the period of assistance based on the need of individual applicants, and refer those with longer-term welfare needs to other service units as appropriate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)544

Question Serial No.

0226

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2012-13, the Administration will make preparation for a new “Guangdong Scheme” (GD Scheme) to provide Old Age Allowance for eligible Hong Kong elderly people who choose to reside in Guangdong. In this connection, would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the progress of the preparatory work;
- (b) the estimated expenditure and manpower involved for this new scheme; and
- (c) when the scheme will be launched and opened for applications?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) and (b) The Administration is drawing up the details of the GD Scheme (including the resources requirements) and aims at developing concrete plans in the first half of 2012.

- (c) The Administration endeavours to launch the Scheme around mid-2013.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)545

Question Serial No.

0327

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding Old Age Allowance (OAA), would the Administration please inform this Committee of –

- (a) the numbers of recipients of Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) and Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) respectively in the 18 districts in Hong Kong and the expenditure involved in 2011-12; and
- (b) the numbers of recipients of NOAA and HOAA respectively in each public housing estate in Hong Kong, these numbers as a percentage of the number of eligible elderly persons living in that housing estate and the expenditure involved in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) The revised estimated expenditures ^[Note 1] on HOAA and NOAA in 2011-12 are \$5,948 million and \$991 million respectively. We do not have the expenditure breakdown by geographical district. The numbers of HOAA and NOAA recipients by geographical district as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Number of OAA recipients		
	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Central & Western	16 948	937	17 885
Eastern	46 527	5 535	52 062
Islands	5 457	980	6 437
Kowloon City	28 543	3 278	31 821
Kwai Tsing	33 104	9 115	42 219

Geographical district ^[Note 2]	Number of OAA recipients		
	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Kwun Tong	43 700	9 575	53 275
North	13 885	2 757	16 642
Sai Kung	16 313	4 007	20 320
Sha Tin	32 649	7 624	40 273
Sham Shui Po	26 567	3 710	30 277
Southern	18 101	2 679	20 780
Tai Po	13 748	2 786	16 534
Tsuen Wan	17 993	3 076	21 069
Tuen Mun	18 934	5 437	24 371
Wan Chai	12 488	529	13 017
Wong Tai Sin	35 031	6 064	41 095
Yau Tsim Mong	20 363	2 075	22 438
Yuen Long	20 846	4 281	25 127
Total	421 197	74 445	495 642

[Note 1] OAA expenditure (2011-12 revised estimate) includes one additional month of the allowance of \$448 million and \$73 million for HOAA and NOAA respectively.

[Note 2] The boundaries of the geographical districts are broadly similar to those of the District Councils. The information on geographical districts was mainly collected at the time of application.

(b) We do not have information on the number of eligible elderly persons and the expenditure breakdown by public housing estate. The numbers of HOAA and NOAA recipients by public housing estate as at the end of January 2012 were as follows –

Public housing estate	Number of OAA recipients
-----------------------	--------------------------

	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Ap Lei Chau	1 247	325	1 572
Bo Shek Mansion	15	5	20
Broadview Garden	12	8	20
Butterfly	484	191	675
Chai Wan	137	41	178
Chak On	266	135	401
Cheung Ching	1 399	540	1 939
Cheung Fat	282	116	398
Cheung Hang	747	306	1 053
Cheung Hong	1 656	731	2 387
Cheung Kwai	67	29	96
Cheung On	1 101	502	1 603
Cheung Shan	528	206	734
Cheung Wah	883	298	1 181
Cheung Wang	147	133	280
Ching Ho	135	126	261
Cho Yiu Chuen	798	261	1 059
Choi Fai	267	103	370
Choi Fook	55	52	107
Choi Ha	735	131	866
Choi Hung	2 698	347	3 045
Choi Ming Court	150	125	275
Choi Tak	160	83	243
Choi Wan (I)	1 598	377	1 975
Choi Wan (II)	806	231	1 037
Choi Ying	177	142	319
Choi Yuen	834	261	1 095
Chuk Yuen (North)	2 418	496	2 914
Chuk Yuen (South)	1 325	282	1 607
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	353	67	420
Chun Shek	342	196	538
Chung On	176	85	261
Clague Garden Estate	258	34	292
Easeful Court	42	25	67
Fortune	289	73	362
Fu Cheong	560	221	781
Fu Heng	539	239	778
Fu Shan	408	154	562
Fu Shin	830	323	1 153
Fu Tai	356	235	591
Fu Tung	148	79	227

Public housing estate	Number of OAA recipients		
	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Fuk Loi	1 364	164	1 528
Fung Tak	1 755	216	1 971
Fung Wah	320	76	396
Grandeur Terrace	105	83	188
Hau Tak	556	232	788
Healthy Village	769	71	840
Heng On	941	392	1 333
High Prosperity Terrace	53	46	99
Hin Keng	1 287	487	1 774
Hin Yiu	33	17	50
Hing Man	562	138	700
Hing Tin	818	195	1 013
Hing Tung	287	107	394
Hing Wah (I)	368	108	476
Hing Wah (II)	889	186	1 075
Ho Man Tin	1 662	335	1 997
Hoi Fu Court	514	115	629
Hoi Lai	374	177	551
Hong Tung	123	6	129
Hung Hom	167	44	211
Jat Min Chuen	659	254	913
Ka Fuk	171	86	257
Ka Wai Chuen	774	118	892
Kai Tin	662	123	785
Kai Yip	922	256	1 178
Kam Peng	28	10	38
Kin Ming	197	162	359
Kin Sang	241	83	324
King Lam	749	254	1 003
Ko Cheung Court	132	69	201
Ko Yee	282	83	365
Kwai Chung	1 005	337	1 342
Kwai Fong	1 959	508	2 467
Kwai Hing	733	142	875
Kwai Luen	15	20	35
Kwai Shing (East)	1 365	407	1 772
Kwai Shing (West)	1 395	487	1 882
Kwong Fuk	867	399	1 266
Kwong Tin	693	208	901
Kwong Yuen	623	226	849

Public housing estate	Number of OAA recipients		
	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Kwun Lung Lau	599	65	664
Kwun Tong Garden Estate	1 542	263	1 805
Lai King	1 185	383	1 568
Lai Kok	750	117	867
Lai On	594	58	652
Lai Tak Tsuen	1 085	200	1 285
Lai Yiu	749	192	941
Lakeside Garden	9	9	18
Lam Tin	300	74	374
Lee On	410	202	612
Lei Cheng Uk	1 543	265	1 808
Lei Muk Shue	2 009	708	2 717
Lei Tung	1 496	422	1 918
Lei Yue Mun	387	142	529
Lek Yuen	834	238	1 072
Leung King	531	230	761
Lok Fu	1 129	147	1 276
Lok Man Sun Chuen	1 584	283	1 867
Lok Wah (North)	823	270	1 093
Lok Wah (South)	1 238	421	1 659
Long Bin IH	8	6	14
Long Ping	853	319	1 172
Lower Wong Tai Sin (I)	2 003	268	2 271
Lower Wong Tai Sin (II)	1 619	256	1 875
Lung Hang	803	376	1 179
Lung Tin	48	16	64
Ma Hang	172	40	212
Ma Tau Wai	702	72	774
Mei Lam	1 021	289	1 310
Mei Tin	114	104	218
Mei Tung	243	56	299
Ming Tak	151	64	215
Ming Wah Dai Ha	1 124	181	1 305
Model Housing	214	39	253
Moon Lok Dai Ha	336	68	404
Nam Cheong	497	81	578
Nam Shan	649	128	777
Nga Ning Court	18	7	25
Ngan Wan	38	13	51
Oi Man	2 200	585	2 785

Public housing estate	Number of OAA recipients		
	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Oi Tung	692	172	864
On Tin	56	46	102
On Ting	518	252	770
On Yam	2 164	636	2 800
Pak Tin	1 669	395	2 064
Ping Shek	1 791	338	2 129
Ping Tin	1 275	324	1 599
Po Lam	714	276	990
Po Tat	790	353	1 143
Po Tin	147	115	262
Pok Hong	1 263	482	1 745
Prosperous Garden	79	18	97
Sai Wan	221	25	246
Sam Shing	258	98	356
Sau Mau Ping (South)	111	120	231
Sau Mau Ping	2 779	814	3 593
Sha Kok	1 380	432	1 812
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	142	38	180
Shan King	763	406	1 169
Shatin Pass	132	9	141
Shek Kip Mei	1 017	233	1 250
Shek Lei (I)	1 640	470	2 110
Shek Lei (II)	679	313	992
Shek Mun	28	18	46
Shek Pai Wan	863	333	1 196
Shek Wai Kok	1 882	516	2 398
Shek Yam (East)	732	176	908
Shek Yam	553	152	705
Sheung Lok	89	13	102
Sheung Tak	500	273	773
Shin Ming	22	16	38
Shui Pin Wai	399	116	515
Shun Lee	1 136	397	1 533
Shun On	684	206	890
Shun Tin	1 740	511	2 251
Siu Sai Wan	1 515	392	1 907
So Uk	622	72	694
Sun Chui	1 363	469	1 832
Sun Tin Wai	887	328	1 215
Tai Hang Tung	556	91	647

Public housing estate	Number of OAA recipients		
	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Tai Hing	1 054	467	1 521
Tai Ping	156	52	208
Tai Wo	810	307	1 117
Tai Wo Hau	2 401	517	2 918
Tai Yuen	873	391	1 264
Tak Tin	1 475	434	1 909
Tin Chak	144	90	234
Tin Ching	84	107	191
Tin Heng	206	176	382
Tin King	207	121	328
Tin Ping	479	210	689
Tin Shui	654	294	948
Tin Tsz	238	95	333
Tin Wah	241	103	344
Tin Wan	647	153	800
Tin Yan	108	95	203
Tin Yat	124	84	208
Tin Yiu	694	297	991
Tin Yuet	204	98	302
Tsing Yi	616	282	898
Tsui Lam	617	295	912
Tsui Lok	83	9	92
Tsui Ping (South)	557	102	659
Tsui Ping (North)	2 211	490	2 701
Tsui Wan	584	132	716
Tsz Ching	1 445	334	1 779
Tsz Hong	174	95	269
Tsz Lok	1 151	292	1 443
Tsz Man	679	115	794
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	18	13	31
Tung Tau	2 130	369	2 499
Un Chau	2 142	325	2 467
Upper Ngau Tau Kok	1 916	277	2 193
Upper Wong Tai Sin	1 105	217	1 322
Verbena Heights	92	47	139
Wah Fu	3 006	575	3 581
Wah Kwai	1 015	129	1 144
Wah Lai	64	49	113
Wah Ming	436	154	590
Wah Sum	121	58	179

Public housing estate	Number of OAA recipients		
	HOAA	NOAA	Total
Wan Hon	230	30	260
Wan Tau Tong	373	104	477
Wan Tsui	834	199	1 033
Wang Tau Hom	1 920	374	2 294
Wo Che	1 647	435	2 082
Wo Lok	547	104	651
Wu King	658	275	933
Yan On	22	24	46
Yat Tung	494	350	844
Yau Lai	372	385	757
Yau Oi	1 106	555	1 661
Yau Tong	597	155	752
Yiu On	514	243	757
Yiu Tung	869	249	1 118
Yue Kwong Chuen	391	60	451
Yue Wan	594	145	739
Yung Shing Court	107	65	172
Total	159 544	46 044	205 588

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the implementation of the Victim Support Programme for Victims of Family Violence (VSP), please advise on the programme details, the estimated and actual number of cases handled each year since its implementation and the expenditure per case.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : VSP commenced operation in June 2010 with an allocation of about \$5 million per annum and targetted to serve about 800 service users a year. Under VSP, emotional support and relevant information on judicial proceedings and social support services are provided to victims of spouse/cohabitant battering and child abuse cases, particularly those undergoing judicial proceedings. In addition, publicity work and recruitment of volunteers to assist the service users are conducted. The actual numbers of service users served in 2010-11 and 2011-12 are as follows –

	Actual No. of Service Users
2010-11 (Jun 2010 – Mar 2011)	405
2011-12 (Apr 2011 – Dec 2011)	454

Given the unique nature of VSP which comprises casework and other services and the varying degrees of complexity of the cases, it is difficult to calculate the average cost per case.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP), please advise on the programme details, the estimated and actual number of participants each year since its implementation and the expenditure per case.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : BIP is a psycho-educational group aiming to change batterers' attitude and stop their abusive behaviours. Types of activities included in BIP are video shows, mini-lectures, structured games, group discussion and sharing. BIP has become a regular service since 2008-09. The yearly breakdown of the number of participants is as follows –

Year	Total Number of Participants
2008-09	80
2009-10	96
2010-11	81
2011-12	74

The estimated number of groups to be conducted in 2012-13 is 10 with around 80 participants. There is no breakdown of the expenditure per case as BIP is a component of the counselling service for batterers provided by the Family and Child Protective Service Units of the Social Welfare Department.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With regard to regularising the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) and extending its coverage to all 18 districts, please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) details of the project and the number of home-based child carers in each district;
- (b) the present numbers of home-based child carers and participating children, and a list of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) responsible for providing such service; and
- (c) expenditure required and usage.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a)&(b) Upon the regularisation and extension of NSCCP to 18 districts in October 2011, each service operator is required to provide at least 26 home-based child care places and 14 centre-based care group places. Thus, there will be a total of at least 468 home-based child care places and 252 centre-based care group places over the territory. The service operators have the flexibility to increase the number of home-based child care places on top of the minimum requirement set by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in order to meet actual service demand. SWD does not capture the number of home-based child carers which may fluctuate according to service demand. From October to December 2011, the total number of children served under NSCCP was 1 894.

The list of NGOs providing the NSCCP service in each district from October 2011 to December 2011 is provided in the table below –

District	NGOs
Central & Western	The Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Social Service Company Limited
Eastern	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service
Islands	Hong Kong Outlying Islands Women's Association
Kowloon City	Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
Kwai Tsing	Women Service Association
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Resident Association
North	Po Leung Kuk
Sai Kung	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
Sha Tin	Hong Kong Single Parents Association
Sham Shui Po	The Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Social Service Company Limited
Southern	Hong Kong Southern District Women's Association
Tai Po	Hong Kong Women Development Association
Tsuen Wan	Yan Chai Hospital Social Services Department
Tuen Mun	Yan Oi Tong
Wan Chai	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service
Wong Tai Sin	Chinese Evangelical Zion Church
Yau Tsim Mong	Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
Yuen Long	Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women Association

- (c) The estimated recurrent provision for NSCCP in 2012-13 is \$36.3 million. Save for the amount set aside for fee subsidy to help low-income families, and the prescribed requirement of at least one social worker for each project, the service operators have the flexibility of deploying the allocation to run their projects.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)549

Question Serial No.

0999

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 182 of the Budget Speech by the Financial Secretary that the Administration allocated funds to set up Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness (ICCMWs) across the territory in 2010, and additional funding for 2011-12 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of these centres. Please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the operation of ICCMW by district and whether they are taking temporary accommodation;
- (b) the details of additional manpower and the geographical distribution; and
- (c) the operating expenditure involved in each ICCMW.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) set up the ICCMWs at 24 service points across the territory in October 2010 to provide one-stop and district-based community support services for persons with suspected mental health problems and their family/carers as well as local residents. SWD has been proactively identifying suitable sites for use by ICCMWs. As at the end of January 2012, 13 ICCMWs had secured permanent accommodation while two others had identified permanent sites pending local consultation. The remaining are using temporary accommodation either at the operating non-governmental organisations (NGOs)' other service units such as halfway house or other local facilities. SWD will continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments in identifying suitable premises in new development or redevelopment projects, vacant government properties, school premises and public housing units, etc. SWD will also consider funding the rental expenses incurred for setting up temporary accommodation for use as ICCMWs at suitable commercial premises, and approval has already been given to four such applications.

(b) & (c) In 2010, the Administration allocated \$135 million to set up ICCMWs across the territory. Additional funding totalling \$48 million for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been made available to strengthen the manpower of the ICCMWs to dovetail with the Case Management Programme of the Hospital Authority for patients with severe mental illness and provide services for more people in need. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the operating NGOs have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Social Welfare Department will make preparation for a new “Guangdong (GD) Scheme” under the Social Security Allowance Scheme to provide Old Age Allowance for eligible Hong Kong elderly people who choose to reside in Guangdong. Please inform this Committee of the progress of the preparation work, the implementation schedule, the expected number of elders who will benefit from the Scheme and the administration costs required.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Administration is drawing up the details of the GD Scheme (including the resource requirements) and aims at developing more concrete plans in the first half of 2012. We have no estimate as to how many elderly people will take part in the Scheme. The Administration endeavours to launch the Scheme around mid-2013.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13” that the Administration will continue to implement and monitor the Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) for private residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs). Please inform this Committee of the details of the FAS, the application criteria, the number of applications of each type of residential care homes and the amount of allocation approved in 2011-12. Please also provide the estimated number of applications and the estimated allocation to be approved in 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has earmarked \$39 million under the Lotteries Fund to implement FAS to provide subsidies for private RCHDs to carry out improvement works for meeting licensing requirements in respect of building and fire safety.

To be eligible for FAS, the private RCHD should be known to SWD prior to commencement of the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (the Ordinance) on 18 November 2011, and the operator of the private RCHD will undertake to continue operation for at least two years after receiving the grant of FAS. The maximum grant allocated to each private RCHD is 60% of the recognised cost of the improvement works within the scope of works related to building and fire safety requirements.

The FAS was introduced in December 2011. There were 81 private RCHDs known to SWD prior to commencement of the Ordinance. While SWD has received a number of enquiries on the FAS, no formal application has yet been received. There will be a grace period of 18 months starting from the commencement of the Ordinance to allow time for individual RCHDs to make

preparation and undertake premises-related improvement works to meet licensing requirements in building and fire safety. We understand that some of these RCHDs are in the process of preparing their FAS applications.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the provisions of various types of rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the numbers of rehabilitation service places provided by subvented non-governmental organisations, residential care places provided by self-financing homes and private residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) and their enrolment rates at present respectively;
- (b) the number of persons with disabilities waitlisting for each type of rehabilitation services and residential care places, the average waiting time and the longest waiting time at present respectively; and
- (c) the cost of providing each type of rehabilitation services and residential care places per month at present?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The requested information is as follows –

(a)

Type of RCHDs	Number of places (as at the end of December 2011)	Average enrolment rate (2010-11)
Subvented home	11 700	95%
Self-financing home	396	85%
Private home	4 130	60%

(b)

Type of service	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2011)	Average waiting time in 2010-11 (in months) ^[Note 3]
Pre-school		
EETC	3 151	11.6
SCCC	1 240	14.9
IP	1 271	10.0
Day training and vocational rehabilitation		
DAC	1 101	28.8
SW	2 457	16.9
SE	99	2.3
IVRSC ^[Note 1]	N.A.	N.A.
OJT ^[Note 2]	N.A.	N.A.
Sunnyway ^[Note 2]	N.A.	N.A.
IVTC(Day) ^[Note 2]	N.A.	N.A.
Residential		
HWH	697	8.2
LSCH	1 174	38.2
IVTC(Res) ^[Note 2]	N.A.	N.A.
HMMH	1 365	80.4
HSMH	2 015	73.2
HSPH	396	38.6
C&A/SD	369	39.6
C&A/AB	90	4.0
SGH(MMHC)	62	22.4
SHOS	972	25.0
RSCCC	54	17.0

[Note 1] Integrated vocational rehabilitation services centres do not have their own central waiting list and applicants are selected from the central waiting lists of sheltered workshop and supported employment.

[Note 2] These services may admit service users directly or through referral and hence the Social Welfare Department does not capture any statistics in this respect.

[Note 3] The waiting time is affected by a number of factors e.g. location preference indicated by the applicants, choice of specific home indicated, the turn-over rate of the home selected by the applicant etc.

(c)

Type of subvented service	Cost per place per month in 2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$)
Residential services	10,370
Day services	
day activity centres	6,812
pre-school services for children with disabilities	6,610
Vocational rehabilitation services	3,817

Type of service	2011-12 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)
Pre-school	
EETC	137.2
SCCC	221.4
IP	89.4
Day training and vocational rehabilitation	
DAC	373.3
SW	244.1
SE	45.4
IVRSC	144.0
OJT	7.8
Sunnyway	10.0
IVTC(Day)	22.8
Residential	
HWH	146.6
LSCH	171.7
IVTC(Res)	8.2
HMMH	174.3
HSMH	470.4
HSPH	88.6
C&A/SD	156.0
C&A/AB	110.1
SGH(MMHC)	5.8
SHOS	39.6
RSCCC	19.2

Legend:

EETC – early education and training centre
SCCC – special child care centre
IP – integrated programme in kindergarten-cum-child care centre
DAC – day activity centre
SW – sheltered workshop
SE – supported employment
IVRSC – integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre
OJT – on the job training programme for people with disabilities
Sunnyway – sunnyway - on the job training programme for young people with disabilities
IVTC(Day) – integrated vocational training centre (day service)
HWH – halfway house
LSCH – long stay care home
IVTC(Res) – integrated vocational training centre (residential service)
HMMH – hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons
HSMH – hostel for severely mentally handicapped persons
HSPH – hostel for severely physically handicapped persons
C&A/SD – care-and-attention home for severely disabled persons
C&A/AB – care-and-attention home for the aged blind
SGH(MMHC) – small group home for mildly mentally handicapped children/integrated small group home
SHOS – supported hostel
RSCCC – residential special child care centre

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)553

Question Serial No.

1779

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please list by type of institutions the expenditures of various boys' and girls' homes in the past three financial years. What items were covered by such expenditures? Among which, how much was spent on education and training? How many boys and girls of different categories had been taken care of and helped by these homes? Among them, how many were sent to these homes due to involvement in an offence (including illegal immigrants and cases sentenced by the courts)? To which categories did they belong (such as illegal immigrants) and what was their number under each category? How effective was their rehabilitation? Besides, how many boys and girls were sent to the homes not because of involvement in any offences (for example, only under the care of the Director of Social Welfare)? To which categories did they belong and what was their number under each category? How does the Administration help maintain the link between the residents of boys' and girls' homes and their families and society, and what are the resources required and the expenditures involved?

Asked by Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In 2007, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) re-located and co-located all of its six probation homes, the reformatory school and remand homes/places of refuge into one residential training complex, namely the Tuen Mun Children and Juvenile Home (TMCJH). Since then, expenditure items of TMCJH are applicable to all children and juveniles admitted for residential training. In 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 (up to 31 January 2012), the total operation costs of TMCJH were \$80.8 million, \$78.8 million, and \$64.0 million respectively. The average annual expenditure on educational and pre-vocational training is around \$12.8 million.

In 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, TMCJH had admitted 8 344 children and juveniles (3 989 boys and 4 355 girls). Among them, 5 239 (1 628 boys and 3 611 girls) were admitted for temporary care, supervision and custody due to non-offence-related causes including

illegal immigrant cases; 2 682 (2 024 boys and 658 girls) were admitted on short-term remand pending police investigation, court trial or sentencing; while 423 (337 boys and 86 girls) involved juvenile offenders who were sentenced by the courts for residential training in the probation home or reformatory school of TMCJH.

In 2010-11, the rates of successful completion of residential training for the probation home and the reformatory school were 98% and 55% respectively. Among them, 75% and 100% respectively had successfully re-integrated into the community upon discharge.

To enable residents maintain relationship with their families and contact with the community, parents or guardians are encouraged to visit their children in TMCJH and participate in special programmes and groups such as parents' day, parent-child relationship groups, day camp, etc. Residents may also take home leave for family reunion at regular intervals. SWD has not kept the breakdown of expenditure incurred for such purposes.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please advise on the details of providing additional support for demented elders in subsidised residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS), and day care centres/units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs) in 2011-12, including the expenditure, the number of places, the number of elders waitlisting and the waiting time. What are the estimated expenditure, number of places, number of elders waitlisting and waiting time in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : To provide additional support for demented elders in subsidised RCHEs, private RCHEs participating in EBPS and subsidised DEs/DCUs, Dementia Supplement (DS) has been provided. The allocation of DS to these service units in 2011-12 is as follows –

Type of service units	Allocation in 2011-12 (\$ million)
Subsidised RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	67.2
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	4.0

To further enhance the support for demented elders in subsidised RCHEs and DEs/DCUs, an additional recurrent funding of \$137.2 million will be provided to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs by way of DS. The total recurrent allocation is \$208.4 million.

The breakdown of the additional allocation of DS is as follows –

Type of service units	Additional allocation (\$ million)
Subsidised RCHEs/Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	127.5
Subsidised DEs/DCUs	9.7

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will invite applications from subsidised RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in the RCHEs will then be confirmed by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in EBPS and that in DEs/DCUs. Allocation of DS will be given to RCHEs and DEs/DCUs according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

With the allocation of DS, RCHEs and DEs/DCUs can employ additional professional staff, including occupational therapists, nurses and social workers, etc., or purchase relevant professional services. DEs/DCUs can also use DS to provide training programmes and services for demented elders as well as support services for their carers as necessary.

There is no waiting list or waiting time for the DS. It is estimated that DS will be allocated to a total of about 270 RCHEs and about 60 DEs/DCUs for about 5 000 beneficiaries in 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)555

Question Serial No.

1781

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the expenditure, number of places and number of applicants waitlisting for day training services, vocational rehabilitation services, pre-school services and residential care home services in 2011-12. What are the estimated expenditure, number of places and number of applicants waitlisting for services in 2012-13 respectively?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The financial allocations for various types of rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as follows –

Type of service	Expenditure (\$ million)	
	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	2012-13 (Estimate)
Pre-school		
EETC	137.2	166.7
SCCC	221.4	250.3
IP	89.4	89.3
Day training and vocational rehabilitation		
DAC	373.3	408.2
SW	244.1	239.5
SE	45.4	54.7
IVRSC ^[Note 1]	144.0	148.9
OJT	7.8	7.8
Sunnyway	10.0	10.0
IVTC(Day)	22.8	22.8

Type of service	Expenditure (\$ million)	
	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	2012-13 (Estimate)
Residential		
HWH	146.6	148.1
LSCH	171.7	177.9
IVTC(Res)	8.2	8.2
HMMH	174.3	177.4
HSMH	470.4	521.9
HSPH	88.6	88.8
C&A/SD	156.0	170.4
C&A/AB	110.1	110.8
SGH(MMHC)	5.8	8.6
SHOS	39.6	45.9
RSCCC	19.2	19.2

The provisions of various types of rehabilitation services in 2011-12 and 2012-13 as shown in the Targets under Programme (4) are as follows –

Type of service	Number of places	
	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	2012-13 (Planned)
Pre-school		
EETC	2 613	3 094
SCCC	1 757	1 883
IP	1 860	1 860
Day training and vocational rehabilitation		
DAC	4 637	5 028
SW	4 999	5 019
SE	1 645	1 645
IVRSC ^[Note 1]	4 257	4 257
OJT	432	432
Sunnyway	311	311
IVTC(Day)	453	453

Type of service	Number of places	
	2011-12 (Revised Estimate)	2012-13 (Planned)
Residential		
HWH	1 509	1 534
LSCH	1 507	1 582
IVTC(Res)	170	170
HMMH	2 287	2 377
HSMH	3 218	3 519
HSPH	573	573
C&A/SD	908	988
C&A/AB	825	825
SGH(MMHC)	64	80
SHOS	554	594
RSCCC	110	110

The numbers of applicants on the waiting lists for various types of rehabilitation services as at the end of December 2011 were as follows –

Type of service	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2011)
Pre-school	
EETC	3 153
SCCC	1 240
IP	1 271
Day training and vocational rehabilitation	
DAC	1 101
SW	2 457
SE	99
IVRSC ^[Note 1]	N.A.
OJT ^[Note 2]	N.A.
Sunnyway ^[Note 2]	N.A.
IVTC(Day) ^[Note 2]	N.A.

Type of service	Number of applicants (as at the end of December 2011)
Residential	
HWH	697
LSCH	1 174
IVTC(Res) ^[Note 2]	N.A.
HMMH	1 365
HSMH	2 015
HSPH	396
C&A/SD	369
C&A/AB	90
SGH(MMHC)	62
SHOS	972
RSCCC	54

[Note 1] Integrated vocational rehabilitation services centres do not have its own central waiting list and applicants are selected from the central waiting lists of sheltered workshop and supported employment.

[Note 2] These services may admit service users directly or through referral and hence the Social Welfare Department does not capture any statistics in this respect.

Legend:

- EETC – early education and training centre
- SCCC – special child care centre
- IP – integrated programmes in ordinary kindergarten-cum-child care centre
- DAC – day activity centre
- SW – sheltered workshop
- SE – supported employment
- IVRSC – integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre
- OJT – on the job training programme for people with disabilities
- Sunnyway – sunnyway - on the job training programme for young people with disabilities
- IVTC(Day) – integrated vocational training centre (day service)
- HWH – halfway house
- LSCH – long stay care home
- IVTC(Res) – integrated vocational training centre (residential service)
- HMMH – hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons
- HSMH – hostel for severely mentally handicapped persons
- HSPH – hostel for severely physically handicapped persons
- C&A/SD – care-and-attention home for severely disabled persons
- C&A/AB – care-and-attention home for the aged blind
- SGH(MMHC) – small group home for mildly mentally handicapped children/
integrated small group home

SHOS – supported hostel
RSCCC – residential special child care centre

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : According to the information provided by the Administration, the percentage of cases that have satisfactorily completed the residential training at reformatory schools (RS) in 2011-12 was 43%, which is lower than the 55% in 2010-11. Please give the reason(s) for that and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : Both the number of residents in RS and the number of discharged RS residents each year are very small. A slight increase in the number of residents who failed to complete their orders of detention satisfactorily would therefore lead to a relatively higher unsatisfactory completion rate of the RS. The reasons for failure to complete the residential training include residents receiving other sentence options by the court for outstanding offences committed before admission to RS, serious violation of regulations in RS, and commission of other offences during after-care supervision in the community.

In 2007, the Social Welfare Department re-located and co-located all of its six probation homes, RS and remand homes/ places of refuge into one residential training complex, i.e. the Tuen Mun Children and Juvenile Home (TMCJH). Since then, expenditure items of TMCJH are applicable to all children and juveniles admitted for residential training therein. There is no breakdown of the expenditure for RS.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that the provision for 2012-13 is \$50.1 million (3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2011-12. This is for the provision of additional youth outreaching services. Please inform this Committee of the expenditure plan in the previous year and the details of the expenditure plan in the coming years.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The increase of the provision for young people services for 2012-13 is mainly due to the setting up of three additional youth outreaching teams and the full-year effect of service enhancement of school social work service implemented in 2011-12. The 2011-12 revised estimate for youth outreaching services is \$145 million whereas the 2012-13 estimate is \$152 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration states that there will be a net increase of 48 posts in 2012-13 under this Programme. Please inform this Committee of the distribution, duties and expenditure of the 48 newly created posts.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The net increase of 48 posts involves the creation of 49 posts in the Social Work Officer, Social Work Assistant, Social Security Officer, Social Security Assistant grades and other supporting general grades, offset by the deletion of one time-limited Social Work Officer grade post. The new posts are created to set up a new Integrated Family Service Centre to strengthen support services for individuals and families with welfare needs, plan and implement the welfare assistance programmes under the Community Care Fund (CCF) initiative, and support to social workers in the provision of family and child welfare services, etc. The estimated annual expenditure involved in the net increase of the 48 posts is \$14.3 million of which about \$3.4 million is to be reimbursed by the CCF.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration would regularise the pilot operation of the Transitional Care and Support Centre for Tetraplegic Patients (TCSC) to provide continued support service to persons with severe physical disability. Please inform this Committee of the details of the plan, number of places and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The TCSC, a 5-year pilot project funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club in 2008, provides time-defined and goal-oriented community-based rehabilitation programmes to tetraplegic patients discharged from hospital to facilitate their return to community living. The TCSC provides 20 transitional residential service places, 20 ambulatory day training places and residential respite care service for persons with severe disabilities, in particular, tetraplegic patients. Carer support service is also provided to strengthen the caring capability of family carers. An estimated annual recurrent allocation of \$10.1 million will be provided to regularise the service of TCSC starting from 2012-13.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)560

Question Serial No.

2008

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that they would continue to monitor the operation of district support centres for persons with disabilities (DSCs) to provide one-stop district-based support services for persons with disabilities and their families/carers. Please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) the operation of each centre by district, their addresses and whether they are temporary centres;
- (b) the details of manpower and the geographical distribution; and
- (c) the operational expenditure of the DSC in each district.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) & (b) The DSCs provide a range of one-stop and district-based community support services to persons with disabilities and their families/carers which include individual/group training programmes, care and support service, personal development programmes, social and recreational activities, carer support programmes, volunteer development programmes, programmes for autistic persons, day care service for persons with severe disabilities and community education.

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has successfully secured premises for 11 DSCs and identified suitable premises at development projects for four DSCs. SWD will closely monitor the progress and continue to identify suitable premises for the remaining DSC.

Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) operating the 16 DSCs have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs. The operating NGOs have committed to providing social workers,

occupational therapists, physiotherapists, clinical psychologists, nurses and other supporting staff for the DSCs.

The distribution of the 16 DSCs is as follows –

District	Number of Centre(s)
Eastern/Wan Chai	1
Central & Western/Southern/Islands	1
Kwun Tong	2
Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung	2
Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong	1
Sham Shui Po	1
Sha Tin	1
Tai Po/North	2
Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing	2
Tuen Mun	1
Yuen Long	2

- (c) The estimated expenditure of the 16 DSCs in 2011-12 is \$107.6 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)561

Question Serial No.

2009

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that it would upgrade the quality of subsidised residential care places for the elderly and increase their supply through the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS). What is the number of places purchased under EBPS in 2011-12? What is the number of places to be purchased in 2012-13? What is the cost per place per month for various types of places under EBPS?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In 2011-12, the number of additional subsidised places under EBPS is 393 (at EA1 level, i.e. places of a higher quality). In 2012-13, the Administration plans to purchase 512 EA1 places and upgrade about 600 EA2 places to EA1 level under EBPS. In 2011-12, the unit subsidy per month for each EA1 place (with the provision of physiotherapy treatment and rehabilitation programme) in urban district and New Territories is \$8,001 and \$7,342 respectively and that for each EA2 place in urban district and New Territories is \$6,000 and \$5,445 respectively.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)562

Question Serial No.

2010

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) would extend the pilot project on enhanced probation service (the Project) at the two designated courts in 2012-13, and evaluate the project with a view to deciding the way forward. Please inform this Committee of the effectiveness of the Project each year, its contents, the estimated number of cases served and the expenditure involved in the future.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : Pursuant to a recommendation of the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse chaired by the Secretary for Justice, apart from the existing probation services for young persons convicted of drug offences, SWD has, since October 2009, implemented the Project at the Probation Offices serving Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts and Kwun Tong Magistrates' Courts to provide more focused, structured and intensive treatment programmes for young offenders aged below 21 and convicted of drug-related offence. The primary objective of the Project is to help young drug offenders quit their drug abusing habit and turn over a new leaf.

Up to 31 January 2012, a total of 429 social enquiry cases of drug-related offences were referred by the two magistrates' courts, among which 218 were put on probation supervision under the Project. Of the 218 cases, 90 are still active and 106 have completed the probation supervision satisfactorily.

In 2012-13, the estimated caseload is 240 and estimated expenditure is around \$1.8 million.

A comprehensive final evaluation of the Project will be conducted in 2012-13 to shed light on its way forward, including the future capacity and expenditure.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the provision of subsidised community care and support services for elders, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following –

- (a) What is the geographical distribution of these types of residential care and service places, the number of elders waitlisting for such places, the average waiting time and expenditure on each type of services in 2011-12?
- (b) What is the geographical distribution of these types of residential care and service places, the anticipated average waiting time and estimated expenditure on each type of services in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) The geographical distribution of subsidised residential and community care services places, i.e. places of homes for the aged (H/As) (including places of self-care (S/C) hostels), care-and-attention (C&A) places in subvented and contract homes, and in private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS), nursing home (NH) places in NHs and self-financing homes under the Nursing Home Purchase Place Scheme (NHPPS), day care centres/units for the elderly (DEs/DCUs), enhanced home and community care service (EHCCSs), and integrated home care services (IHCS) in 2011-12 is as follows –

District	Number of places by service type ^[Note 1]								
	H/A	C&A [Note 2]	NH [Note 2]	EBPS	DE/DCU Places	EHCCS Places (District basis)	EHCCS Places (Cluster basis)	IHCS Places (Frail Cases)	IHCS (Ordinary Cases) Caseload [Note 3]
Central & Western	0	258	131	520	104	146	109	40	592
Eastern	22	479	93	325	216	196		80	1 499
Wan Chai	0	462	0	54	72	154		30	536
Southern	112 [Note 4]	1 332	0	414	108	123		80	968
Islands	67	322	63	42	40	124		20	256
Kwun Tong	0	1 121	383	549	305	386	321	150	1 722
Wong Tai Sin	34	1 097	391	242	287	406	398	100	1 426
Sai Kung	0	940	292	0	145	228		30	380
Kowloon City	7	741	0	1 200	161	290	216	30	1 284
Sham Shui Po	0	745	95	285	247	235		90	1 632
Yau Tsim Mong	0	109	104	597	132	188		40	905
Sha Tin	0	1 240	0	0	216	167	187	120	1 234
Tai Po	0	1 179	0	98	64	119		30	802
North	0	875	299	339	44	121		30	759
Yuen Long	0	947	50	773	110	143	196	90	1 231
Tsuen Wan	0	533	368	855	64	215		40	387
Kwai Tsing	75	1 653	299	864	154	271		90	1 068
Tuen Mun	0	901	216	412	110	140		30	1 172
Total	317	14 934	2 784	7 569	2 579	3 652	1 427	1 120	17 853

[Note 1] The services provided by elderly centres are open to all members of the public aged 60 or above, and there is no limit on the number of members. There is no waiting list or waiting time for services provided by these centres.

[Note 2] Places in contract homes include C&A and NH places. NH places include NHPPS places.

[Note 3] There is no maximum service capacity for IHCS (Ordinary Cases) and the figures refer to the caseload on elders as at the end of September 2011.

[Note 4] One elderly home in the district also provides 24 S/C hostel places in addition to H/A places.

As at 31 January 2012, the number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A and NH places and the average waiting time were as follows –

Subsidised residential care places	As at 31 January 2012
C&A	
(a) Number of applicants ^[Note 1]	21 238
(b) Average waiting time (months) ^[Note 2]	
- Subvented homes and contract homes	34
- Private homes participating in the EBPS	8
NH^[Note 3]	
(a) Number of applicants	6 518
(b) Average waiting time (months) ^[Note 2]	35

[Note 1] Eligible elders can choose to apply for more than one type of subsidised C&A places, i.e. those in subvented/contract home or EBPS homes. SWD only captures the total number of applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places as a whole.

[Note 2] Average waiting time in the past three months. The waiting time could be substantially reduced if the elder on the waiting list has no specific preference.

[Note 3] Including subsidised nursing home places provided by subvented nursing homes, self-financing nursing homes and contract homes.

As at 31 January 2012, there were 1 761 elders waiting for subsidised day care places and the average waiting time was about nine months. There were 338 elders waiting for IHCS places for frail cases and/or EHCCS and the average waiting time was about three months.

The recurrent expenditure on the subsidised residential care service for elderly and community care services in 2011-12 revised estimate are \$2,659.3 million and \$1,382.2 million respectively.

(b) In 2012-13, the number of additional subsidised residential care places and estimated expenditure are as follows –

Residential care services	Number of places	Estimated annual expenditure (\$ million)
EBPS	512	138.3
NH	507	
C&A	200	
Total	1 219	

In 2012-13, the number of additional subsidised community care places and estimated expenditure are as follows –

District	Number of DE/DCUs places	Estimated annual expenditure (\$ million)
Kwun Tong	100	17.3
Yau Tsim Mong	20	
Sha Tin	45	
Kwai Tsing	60	
Total	225	

District	Number of EHCCS places	Estimated annual expenditure (\$ million)
Hong Kong	115	21.8
East Kowloon	80	
West Kowloon	40	
New Territories East	100	
New Territories West	165	
Total	500	

The additional places will help ease the pressure on waiting time, particularly those relating to EHCCS. However, as the waiting time for subsidised residential care is affected by a number of factors, for example, the special preference of applicants in terms of the location, diet and religious background of the elderly homes, whether the applicant has requested joining family members and/or relatives in a particular home, the turn-over rate of individual homes, etc., it is difficult to estimate the waiting time in 2012-13.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)564

Question Serial No.

2480

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Please provide a breakdown, by District Council district, of the number of applications and successful applications for short-term food assistance service in the past three years, and the expenditure involved?
- (b) What is the Administration's estimated expenditure on short-term food assistance in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply : (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned five non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in February 2009 to operate five short-term food assistance service projects (the Projects) covering the whole territory. Since the operating NGOs only submit statistics of their service areas, SWD cannot provide the information by District Council district. The numbers of applications and successful applications in the past three years were as follows –

Operator	Districts served	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12 (as at the end of December 2011)	
		Number of applications	Number of successful applications	Number of applications	Number of successful applications	Number of applications	Number of successful applications
St. James' Settlement	Hong Kong, Outlying Islands and Tung Chung, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing	4 100	3 550	2 109	1 970	1 767	1 699
Tung Wah Groups of Hospitals	Kowloon City, Yau Tsim Mong and Sham Shui Po	3 327	3 141	3 039	2 969	3 907	3 874
Kwun Tong Methodist Social	Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin and Sai Kung	1 828	1 779	1 797	1 771	1 550	1 523

Operator	Districts served	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12 (as at the end of December 2011)	
		Number of applications	Number of successful applications	Number of applications	Number of successful applications	Number of applications	Number of successful applications
Service							
Hong Kong Women Development Association Limited	Sha Tin, Tai Po and North	1 463	1 394	970	943	997	970
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council	Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tin Shui Wai	1 886	1 824	2 148	2 123	3 029	2 962
Total		12 604	11 688	10 063	9 776	11 250	11 028

The total expenditure on the Projects in the past three years was as follows –

Year	Total expenditure (\$ million)
2009-10	19.2
2010-11	15.6
2011-12 (as at the end of December 2011)	17.2
Total	52.0

- (b) The short-term food assistance service has been enhanced since late October 2011 to provide service users with more food varieties and food or hot meal coupons. The estimated expenditure on the Projects in 2012 -13 is \$57.5 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	1 March 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department stated that it will make full use of the space in existing subvented residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) to provide more subsidised long-term care places. What is the estimated expenditure involved in implementing this initiative in 2012-13? What is the estimated expenditure on the purchase of residential care places through the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) in 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply : The estimated expenditure for additional subsidised residential care places through making use of the space in existing subvented RCHEs to provide more places with a continuum of care in 2012-13 is \$16.9 million. The estimated expenditure for the additional 512 places to be purchased under the EBPS in 2012-13 is about \$47 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

29 February 2012

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 186 – Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Please provide information on the utilisation of rebus services:

	2011	2010	2009	2008
<u>Scheduled route services</u>				
Average daily passenger trips				
Number of vehicles				
Number of passengers on waiting list as at year-end				
<u>Dial-a-ride services</u>				
Average daily passenger trips				
Number of vehicles				
Number of orders received				
Number of orders not entertained				

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The requested information on the utilisation of rebus services is as follows:

	2011	2010	2009	2008
<u>Scheduled route services</u> ^{Note 1}				
Average daily passenger trips	1 084	1 054	992	941
Number of vehicles as at year-end	77	74	70	70
Number of passengers on waiting list as at year-end	58	73	62	58

<u>Dial-a-ride services</u>				
Average daily passenger trips	1 117	1 129	1 052	985
Number of vehicles used for dial-a-ride services full day as at year-end ^{Note 2}	33	32	30	30
Number of orders received	126 827	123 246	122 369	108 182
Number of orders not entertained	16 839	13 755	11 105	10 034

Note 1 : Scheduled route services operate during peak periods on weekdays only. No service on Sundays and public holidays.

Note 2 : Vehicles used for scheduled route services are also deployed for dial-a-ride services when they are outside the operating periods set out in Note 1.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	JOSEPH Y T LAI
Post Title	Commissioner for Transport
Date	23 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)567

Question Serial No.

3305

Head : 186 – Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

What were the numbers of applications and average waiting time for rebus services in each of the past five years?

	Number of applications	Average waiting time
2007-08		
2008-09		
2009-10		
2010-11		
2011-12		

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

The numbers of applications received and the average waiting time for the scheduled route services in the recent five financial years were as follows:

	Number of applications received	Average waiting time
2007-08	443	About 2 months
2008-09	474	About 1.5 months
2009-10	483	About 2 months
2010-11	402	About 2 months
2011-12 (up to December 2011)	341	About 1.5 months

The numbers of booking orders received for the dial-a-ride (DAR) services in the recent five financial years were as follows:

	Number of booking orders received
2007-08	97 740
2008-09	111 303
2009-10	124 811
2010-11	123 275
2011-12 (up to December 2011)	96 549

DAR services are operated on a first-come-first-served basis and may be booked in advance without time restriction. Demand for DAR services varies considerably on a daily basis. Therefore, it is difficult to give a precise estimate on the number of days required in advance to secure the provision of DAR services.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	JOSEPH Y T LAI
Post Title	Commissioner for Transport
Date	29 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)569

Question Serial No.

2234

Head : 186 – Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In order to meet passenger demand, what were the numbers of rehabuses replaced and added in each of the past five years? What were the expenditure and manpower involved each year?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

The rebus procurement programmes from 2007-08 to 2011-12 are as follows:

Financial Year	Number of Rehabuses Procured for Replacement	Number of Additional Rehabuses	Capital Cost (\$ million)
2007-08	9	6	9.8
2008-09	24	8	20.0
2009-10	4	6	7.4
2010-11	6	4	7.5
2011-12	17	4	18.5

The work involved in procurement of rehabuses was absorbed by the existing manpower of the Transport Department.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

JOSEPH Y T LAI

Commissioner for Transport

23 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)570

Question Serial No.

1342

Head : 186 – Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

How many additional rehabuses and replacement rehabuses will be procured in 2012-13? What is the waiting time of persons with disabilities and the elderly for rebus services respectively? How will the additional rehabuses improve their waiting time? What will be the passenger number and utilisation rate of services in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

Rehabus provides point-to-point transport services for persons with disabilities who have difficulties using normal modes of transport. Rehabus offers scheduled route (SR) services to carry persons with disabilities to office, schools and places of rehabilitation. Besides, Rehabus provides dial-a-ride (DAR) services to facilitate persons with disabilities in attending medical appointments and taking part in other social activities.

The Administration plans to procure six additional rehabuses and replace four rehabuses in 2012-13.

Four of the six additional rehabuses will be deployed on SR services and the remaining two on DAR services. Rehabuses used for SR services will be flexibly deployed for DAR services during the off-peak periods.

The average waiting time for SR services was about two months in 2011. If the demand for the services remains at the present level, the addition of the four rehabuses should be able to cater for all applicants currently on the waiting list for SR services.

DAR services are operated on a first-come-first-served basis and may be booked in advance without time restriction. Demand for DAR services varies considerably on a daily basis. Therefore, it is difficult to give a precise estimate on the number of days required in advance to secure the provision of DAR services. Assuming that the demand for DAR services remains at the present level, the additional rehabuses should reduce the number of booking orders that cannot be entertained currently by about 25%.

It is estimated that the total passenger trips for SR and DAR services in 2011-12 will be about 324 000 and 411 000 respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	JOSEPH Y T LAI
Post Title	Commissioner for Transport
Date	23 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)572

Question Serial No.

0598

Head : 186 – Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

During 2012-13, the Administration will replace four rehabuses and procure six additional rehabuses. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the reasons, expenditure and service commencement schedule involved; the use of these additional rehabuses; the number of these vehicles to be deployed for scheduled route services; and the impact on the number of persons waiting for scheduled route services.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

New rehabuses are procured to replace old rehabuses which have been assessed by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department to be beyond economical repair, and additional vehicles are procured to meet increasing passenger demand. The capital cost of these new rehabuses is about \$9.41 million. Four of the six additional new rehabuses will be deployed on scheduled route (SR) services and the remaining two on dial-a-ride (DAR) services. Rehabuses used for SR services will be flexibly deployed for DAR services during the off-peak periods. The new rehabuses are expected to commence service in early 2013.

If the demand for SR services remains at the present level, the four additional rehabuses will be able to cater for the applicants currently on the waiting list of SR services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

JOSEPH Y T LAI

Commissioner for Transport

23 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)573

Question Serial No.

1520

Head : 186 – Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the six additional rehabuses to be procured in 2012-13, please advise whether the Transport Department has assessed how these additional rehabuses will help improve the services? What are the criteria considered in increasing the supply of rehabuses?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

Rehabus provides point-to-point transport services for persons with disabilities who have difficulties using normal modes of transport. Rehabus offers scheduled route (SR) services to carry persons with disabilities to office, schools and places of rehabilitation. Besides, Rehabus provides dial-a-ride (DAR) services to facilitate persons with disabilities in attending medical appointments and taking part in other social activities.

The Administration plans to deploy four of the six additional rehabuses on SR services and the remaining two on DAR services. Rehabuses used for SR services will be flexibly deployed for DAR services during the off-peak periods.

If the demand for SR services remains at the present level, the four additional rehabuses will be able to cater for all applicants currently on the waiting list of SR services. Assuming that the demand for DAR services remains at the present level, the additional rehabuses should help reduce the booking orders currently not entertained by about 25%.

Additional rehabuses are procured to meet increasing passenger demand, having regard to the number of applicants on the waiting list of the SR services and the number of booking orders that cannot be entertained in the DAR services.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	JOSEPH Y T LAI
Post Title	Commissioner for Transport
Date	23 February 2012

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)574

Question Serial No.

1083

Head : Lotteries Fund

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In each of the past three years, what were the provisions approved under the Lotteries Fund (LF) for the installation of air-conditioners at the social centres for the elderly (S/Es), neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs), district elderly community centres (DECCs), subvented care-and-attention (C&A) homes for the elderly operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and the activity rooms and television rooms of youth centres (YCs)?

	S/Es	NECs	DECCs	Subvented C&A Homes of NGOs	YCs
2011					
2010					
2009					

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The LF provides funding support for capital works projects of NGOs which may cover the costs for installation of air-conditioning and related works. Such works typically consist of upgrading works for power supply, electrical works for cables wiring and extending conduits and trunking as well as installation fees for air-conditioners. We have no statistical information on the specific cost for the installation of air-conditioners.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

2 March 2012

Session 16 LWB(WW) – page no.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : Lotteries Fund

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The closing balance of the Lotteries Fund (LF) has been on the rise over the past five years and it will reach \$10,045 million in the 2012-13 estimate. Will the Administration consider providing allocation for some special uses or programmes that are outside the current funding ambit, including the construction of subsidised residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and the expansion of the scale of food banks operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), etc.?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply : LF grants are normally used to meet non-recurrent commitments for construction, fitting-out works, renovation and purchase of furniture and equipment for the premises occupied by NGOs providing welfare services. LF grants may also be used for meeting staff and operating expenses on well-defined projects which are of limited duration and are experimental or innovative in nature.

LF has been an important funding support for NGOs to enhance their welfare service quality in various programme and service areas including elderly services like the renovation and construction of RCHEs, rehabilitation services, family and child welfare services as well as youth and correctional services. Apart from subsidised services, applications for LF grants in respect of self-financing welfare services are also considered on individual case merits.

The beneficiaries of LF are not individuals but NGOs providing welfare services to the public. The current ambit of LF has already accommodated the non-recurrent funding needs of welfare services operated by NGOs. LF will continue financing welfare projects to meet community needs and facilitate the implementation of social welfare policies.

Regarding the operation of food banks, the Social Welfare Department has commissioned five NGOs since February 2009 to operate five short-term food assistance service projects covering the whole territory to help individuals and families who have difficulty meeting their daily food expenditure. To better meet the needs of the service users, the Administration has enhanced the provision of short-term food assistance service by including more food varieties, like fresh food and supermarket or hot meal coupons. In 2011-12, the Administration has also provided an additional allocation of \$100 million to continue the enhanced services under the short-term food assistance service projects. The Administration will allocate another \$100 million to the services when necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	2 March 2012