

**Replies to questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the
Draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02**

**[Bureau Secretary/Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare]
[Session No. : 9]**

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Bureau Serial No.

HWB001

Question Serial No.

0082

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head 186 - Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme: (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : According to the forecast of Transport Department, the total number of persons on the waiting list for Rehabus scheduled route services is 26 in 2001-02, which is reduced by 10 when compared with 2000-01. What are the reasons for such a reduction?

Asked by: Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo

Reply : The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation introduced two new scheduled route services in January 2001. These serve 20 passengers who were originally on the waiting list. As a result, the number of persons on the list was reduced from 36 to 16 in January 2001. We, however, estimate that 10 new passengers will join the list in 2001-02. Therefore, the projected number of persons on the waiting list will be 26 by the end of 2001-02.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB002

Question Serial No.

0043

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead(No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What are the reasons for the decrease in income under subhead 514 in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee

Reply : The projected income for 2001-02 comprises two components, namely "patient fee income" and "other income". We estimate a moderate increase of \$15M in "patient fee income", which however will likely be more than offset by a projected decrease of \$37M in "other income", mainly in investment income due to the downward trend of interest rate in Hong Kong.

Signature

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 13 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB003

Question Serial No.

0044

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead(No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

With the increase in both hospital beds and estimated number of in-patient, why is it that the number of nursing staff can be reduced?

Asked by :Hon. Audrey EU Yuet-mee

Reply :

The reduction in nursing staff is due to change in staff mix arising from the upgrading of basic nursing education from a hospital-based nursing education to degree level in tertiary institutions. While there will be a consequential reduction in the number of nurse trainees employed by the Hospital Authority, this will be offset by the planned increase of 850 additional qualified nurses.

Signature

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 13 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB004

Question Serial No.

0054

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What is the estimated input of manpower and resources for the 'Tobacco Control Office' in enhancing the anti-smoking efforts?

Asked by : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

Reply :

A new Tobacco Control Office (TCO) has been set up to enhance the Government's anti-smoking efforts. The TCO comprises a Senior Medical & Health Officer, a Nursing Officer, three Tobacco Control Officers, three Assistant Tobacco Control Officers, and two clerical staff. In addition to these, up to 100 Smoke-Free Ambassadors (temporary staff) will be recruited to assist the Office in nurturing a smoke-free culture in Hong Kong. The total estimated expenditure for 2001-02 is \$18M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 17 March 2001

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead(No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : There will be an estimated 6 691 non-directorate posts in the Department of Health at 31 March 2001, rising by five posts to 6 696 posts at 31 March 2002, in addition to 59 established directorate posts, representing an expenditure of \$2,001.8M. Please give an account of :

- (a) The above-mentioned five additional non-directorate posts and 59 established directorate posts by post and job nature.
- (b) The annual average emolument and benefit entitlement for each of the above-mentioned non-directorate and directorate staff.

Asked by : Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung

Reply :

- (a) In 2001-02, we shall create the following non-directorate posts to provide laboratory support for conducting tests for biotoxins and viruses in shellfish under the food surveillance programme –

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Number of post</u>
Senior Medical and Health Officer	1
Senior Medical Technologist	1
Medical Technologist	1
Medical Laboratory Technician I	2
	<hr/>
	5

Details of the 59 directorate posts are at Annex A.

- (b) Annex B sets out the notional annual mid-point salary (NAMS) of individual ranks. Fringe benefits are provided to civil servants as part of the terms of employment and are payable in accordance with the regulations governing the provision of such benefits. In general, these benefits include pensions or gratuities and Mandatory Provident Fund contributions, leave, medical and dental benefits, housing benefits and education allowances (the provision of Overseas Education Allowance and Local Education Allowance have been ceased for officers offered appointment on and after 1.8.1996 and 1.6.2000 respectively.) Directorate officers are also eligible for leave passages.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Details of the 59 Directorate Posts in the Department of Health

(A) Management (*Total: 27 posts*)

<u>Post</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Director of Health	Director of Health
Deputy Director of Health (1)	) Deputy Director of
Deputy Director of Health (2)	) Health
Assistant Director of Health (Elderly Health Services))
Assistant Director of Health (Health Administration and Planning))
Assistant Director of Health (Personal Health Services)	) Assistant Director
Assistant Director of Health (Special Health Services)	) of Health
Assistant Director of Health (Traditional Chinese Medicine))
Assistant Director of Health (Administration and Policy)	) Senior Principal
	) Executive Officer
Principal Medical Officer (1))
Principal Medical Officer (2))
Principal Medical Officer (3))
Principal Medical Officer (4))
Principal Medical Officer (5))
Principal Medical Officer (6)	) Principal Medical
Principal Medical Officer (Family Health Service)	) and Health Officer
Chief Port Health Officer)
Community Physician (Hong Kong))
Community Physician (Kowloon))
Community Physician (New Territories East))
Community Physician (New Territories West))
Principal Dental Officer	) Principal Dental
	) Officer
Principal Nursing Officer	) Principal Nursing
	) Officer
Chief Pharmacist	) Chief Pharmacist
Chief Treasury Accountant	) Chief Treasury
	) Accountant
Departmental Secretary	) Principal Executive
Head (Boards and Councils Office)	) Officer

(B) Clinical (Total: 32 posts)

<u>Post</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Consultant Paediatrician (Child Assessment Service))
Consultant Clinical Geneticist)
Consultant Community Medicine (1))
Consultant Community Medicine (2))
Consultant Family Medicine (Elderly Health Services))
Consultant Family Medicine)
Consultant Forensic Pathologist in-charge)
Consultant Forensic Pathologist (Kowloon))
Consultant Forensic Pathologist (New Territories))
Consultant in-charge, Pathology Service)
Consultant Pathologist, Institutes of Pathology, Kowloon and Yung Fung Shee Memorial Centre)
Consultant Pathologist, Institutes of Pathology, Public Health Laboratories, Lek Yuen Health Centre and Yan Oi Polyclinic)
Consultant Pathologist, Institutes of Pathology, Sai Ying Pun Jockey Club Clinic)
Consultant Medical Microbiologist, Public Health Laboratories)
Consultant Medical Microbiologist (Bacteriology))
Consultant (Special Preventive Programme))
Consultant Dermatologist in-charge	) Consultant
Consultant Dermatologist)
Consultant Community Medicine (Student Health Service))
Consultant Chest Physician in-charge)
Consultant Chest Physician (Pneumoconiosis))
Consultant in-charge Dental Service)
Consultant Dental Surgeon (Operations))
Consultant Orthodontist in-charge)
Consultant Orthodontist)
Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon in-charge)
Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Princess Margaret Hospital, Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Dental Unit)
Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Prince of Wales Hospital, Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Dental Unit)
Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Dental Unit)
Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Dental Unit)
Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Tuen Mun Hospital, Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Dental Unit)
Consultant Paedodontist)

NAMS of Individual Ranks

<u>Rank</u>	<u>NAMS (\$)</u>
Director of Health	1,951,800
Deputy Director of Health	1,580,400
Assistant Director of Health	1,443,000
Consultant	1,544,509
Principal Medical & Health Officer	1,213,200
Senior Medical & Health Officer	985,260
Medical & Health Officer	690,300
Principal Nursing Officer	1,213,200
Chief Nursing Officer	819,720
Senior Nursing Officer	660,000
Nursing Officer	486,000
Registered Nurse	306,360
Enrolled Nurse	228,660
Senior Inoculator	240,120
Inoculator	161,100
Midwife	228,660
Dental Consultant	1,544,509
Principal Dental Officer	1,213,200
Senior Dental Officer	985,260
Dental Officer	630,240
Dental Hygienist	205,200
Dental Inspector	205,200
Senior Dental Surgery Assistant	321,660
Dental Surgery Assistant	193,140
Senior Dental Technologist	660,000
Dental Technologist	508,860
Dental Technician I	386,280
Dental Technician II	228,660
Tutor Dental Therapist	508,860
Senior Dental Therapist	404,460
Dental Therapist/Student	202,950
Chief Pharmacist	1,213,200
Senior Pharmacist	985,260
Pharmacist	602,280
Chief Dispenser	508,860
Senior Dispenser	386,280
Dispenser	178,260
Chief Medical Technologist	819,720
Senior Medical Technologist	660,000
Medical Technologist	508,860
Medical Laboratory Technician I	386,280

<u>Rank</u>	<u>NAMS (\$)</u>
Medical Laboratory Technician II	228,660
Scientific Officer (Medical)	602,280
Senior Clinical Psychologist	985,260
Clinical Psychologist	602,280
Senior Dietitian	722,280
Dietitian	386,280
Speech Therapist	386,280
Senior Occupational Therapist	660,000
Occupational Therapist I	486,000
Senior Physiotherapist	660,000
Physiotherapist I	486,000
Audiology Technician I	443,280
Orthoptist I	464,340
Optometrist	278,040
Electrical Technician	278,040
Senior Physicist	985,260
Physicist	602,280
Senior Radiographer	660,000
Radiographer I	486,000
Radiographer II	291,840
Senior Radiographic Technician	291,840
Radiographic Technician	193,140
Chief Hospital Administrator	985,260
Senior Hospital Administrator	722,280
Hospital Administrator I	508,860
Hospital Administrator II	306,360
Senior Hospital Foreman	217,680
Hospital Foreman	171,600
Mortuary Officer	240,120
Mortuary Technician	217,680
Mortuary Attendant	171,600
Photographer I	193,140
Senior Principal Executive Officer	1,443,000
Principal Executive Officer	1,213,200
Chief Executive Officer	985,260
Senior Executive Officer	722,280
Executive Officer I	508,860
Executive Officer II	321,660
Senior Clerical Officer	386,280
Clerical Officer	291,840
Assistant Clerical Officer	171,600
Clerical Assistant	141,840
Office Assistant	117,420
Confidential Assistant	217,680
Senior Chinese Language Officer	722,280
Chinese Language Officer I	508,860
Chinese Language Officer II	306,360
Calligraphist	171,600
Senior Personal Secretary	386,280

<u>Rank</u>	<u>NAMS (\$)</u>
Personal Secretary I	291,840
Personal Secretary II	181,920
Supervisor Of Typing Services	306,360
Typist	141,840
Telephone Operator	151,140
Senior Health Inspector	532,740
Health Inspector I/II	357,630
Librarian	508,860
Senior Statistician	985,260
Statistician	602,280
Statistical Officer I	386,280
Statistical Officer II/Student	170,640
Senior Supplies Officer	660,000
Supplies Officer	486,000
Assistant Supplies Officer	264,900
Supplies Supervisor I	291,840
Supplies Supervisor II	171,600
Supplies Assistant	141,840
Senior Training Officer	722,280
Training Officer I	508,860
Transport Services Officer II	278,040
Chief Treasury Accountant	1,213,200
Treasury Accountant	630,240
Senior Accounting Officer	722,280
Accounting Officer I	508,860
Accounting Officer II	306,360
Artisan	151,140
Darkroom Technician	151,140
Laboratory Attendant	151,140
Special Driver	171,600
Motor Driver	151,140
Ganger	122,100
Supplies Attendant	122,100
Property Attendant	122,100
Ward Attendant	122,100
Workman I	122,100
Workman II	112,740

Bureau Serial No.

HWB006

Question Serial No.

0110

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : The number of inspections of licensed retail drug premises in 1999 was 6 920, which dropped to 6 500 in 2000. What were the reasons? How many prosecution cases were there during the period and what were the reasons for the prosecution?

Asked by : Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung

Reply :

The number of licensed retail drug premises in 2000 was 2 926. The target to inspect these premises on average twice a year has been met. The Department over-achieved this pledged target in both 1999 and 2000. In the year 2000, prosecutions were initiated against 33 dispensaries and 32 medicine companies. These prosecutions were related to the illegal possession and/or sale of controlled pharmaceutical products.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB007

Question Serial No.

0111

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : As shown by the figures, attendances at general out-patient clinics amounted to 4 715 000 in 1999, rising to 4 860 000 in 2000, and are estimated at 4 881 000 this year. What are the age distribution and the proportion of new cases to old cases of the attendances?

Asked by : Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung

Reply :

According to the surveys conducted by the Department in 1999 and 2000, the distribution of clients at general out-patient clinics by age groups is as follows –

<u>Age groups</u>	<u>Distribution (%)</u>	
	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
0-14	11.7%	12.3%
15-44	23.9%	24.0%
45-64	28.0%	28.7%
<u>65 and above</u>	36.4%	35.0%
Total	100%	100%

New cases accounted for 12.5% and 10.5% of the consultations in 1999 and 2000 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB009

Question Serial No.

0013

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
- (1) As for child custody services, the number of supervision cases served is 926 while there are only 33 workers involved in the provision of services. However, the number of supervision cases handled by each worker is merely 16. What are the reasons for such discrepancy? Does it mean that there is still a large number of cases remained unserved?
 - (2) Such discrepancy in the figures is also found in child protection and family casework services. What are the reasons for this?

Asked by : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee

- Reply :
- (1) The number of 926 quoted is the aggregate of the number of supervision cases expected to be handled during the year 2001-02. This comprises, for example, cases carried forward from the previous financial year that still require supervision as well as all new cases referred to us for supervision during the year. The actual workload for the workers is smaller, as incoming new cases are offset by cases closed in the course of the year. The number of supervision cases per worker estimated at 16 is calculated by dividing the average number of active supervision cases at the end of each quarter by the average number of child custody workers in post for the corresponding period. All supervision cases ordered by the Court have been served.
 - (2) The same explanation applies to the child protection and family casework services. All cases have been served and offered service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding child protection services, the cost per supervision case per month will increase by 33% from \$1,059 to \$1,410. What are the reasons for the increase?

Asked by : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee

Reply : The increase of unit cost from \$1,059 per supervision case per month estimated for 2000-01 to \$1,410 estimated for 2001-02 is due to strengthening of services in handling child abuse and domestic violence cases. In the 2000 Policy Commitments, we pledge to provide additional professional and support staff in the Department's Family and Child Protective Services Units in 2001-02 in order to strengthen services to assist victims of domestic violence. These service improvements include providing mutual-help group work service and intervention in collaboration with Clinical Psychologists to help victims overcome trauma and regain independence in family functioning, enhancing community education for the prevention and early identification of child abuse and domestic violence cases, and provision of additional staff to handle the increasing number and increasing complexity of cases. Moreover, the unit cost of \$1,059 in 2000-01 is on the low side as compared with \$1,344 in 1999-2000 and \$1,410 estimated for 2001-02. The reason is that additional staff to meet increases in caseload was only provided in the fourth quarter of 2000-01, resulting in a relatively lower cost in 2000-01.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB011

Question Serial No.

0015

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As stated in the Analysis of Financial and Staffing provision, there is a net creation of 33 posts for Programme (1). However, the targets under the said Programme indicate that the total number of additional posts to be created is 24 only, namely 2 child custody worker posts, 20 child protection worker posts and 2 clinical psychologist posts. In which area(s) of service will the remaining 9 posts be created.

Asked by : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee

Reply : Apart from the 24 posts indicated under the targets, there are 6 Social Work Assistant posts to be created to strengthen provision of family education service, which is a 2-year time-limited project aiming at providing greater support to parents of at-risk families in guiding their children. The other 3 posts are Clerical Assistants to be created to provide clerical support in view of the increasing number of child protection cases to be handled by concerned service units. These make up a total of 33 posts stated in the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
- (a) The indicators under Programme (4) show that the enrolment rate of residential services falls short of 100%. Why does the Government still have to provide additional places ?
 - (b) The indicators under Programme (4) show that the enrolment rate of day activity centres falls short of 100%. Why does the Government still have to provide additional places ?

Asked by : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee

- Reply :
- (a) The enrolment rate of residential services is an average of the enrolment of all residential rehabilitation services. The actual enrolment rate is 96% (April to December 2000). The enrolment rate is less than 100% to take into account the time to fill casual vacancies as well as phased admission into new and converted homes. In practice, unless we allow homes to be over-subscribed, it will not be possible to achieving a 100% enrolment rate.

In light of the above explanation, an enrolment rate of less than 100% does not imply that there is spare capacity in meeting the demand for the service. In respect of all the residential places with additional places planned for in 2001-02, there is shortfall as reflected in the waiting list. In this connection, it is relevant to note paragraph 93 in the Financial Secretary's Budget Speech which refers to 5 400 disabled people waiting for residential service with the average waiting time of 4 to 5 years.

- (b) The actual enrolment rate of day activity centres (April to December 2000) is 98%. Casual vacancies may arise because of the time taken in the process of matching the applicant's preference with the location of centre and its availability of vacancies and transportation routes. At present, there are 930 people with disabilities waiting for admission to day activity centres.

Signature	
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB013

Question Serial No.

0017

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Why do the caseload and number of clients identified in several service areas (including school social work and outreaching social work) under Programme (7) reduce?

Asked by : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee

Reply : Following the endorsed policy of pooling the resources of children and youth centres, school social work units and outreaching social work teams to form new integrated teams, 10 school social worker units and two outreaching social work teams together with the resources of children and youth centres will be pooled to form seven new integrated teams in 2001-02. The service activities of the resources pooled therefore do not appear under school social work and outreaching social work. The figures are reported under Integrated Teams on an individual worker basis. In other words, the reduction in figures under school social work and outreaching social work do not imply a reduction in service. On the contrary, we expect services to be provided to young people in need in a more effective and integrated manner.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB014

Question Serial No.

0077

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please state separately the staff establishment in 2000-01 and 2001-02 for implementing the recommendations in the review of the Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) Scheme to provide burial grants and better escort service and to conduct more home visits to the participants.

Asked by : Hon LI Fung-ying

Reply : We have not increased our staff establishment to implement the recommendations of the review of the Portable CSSA Scheme. A non-government organisation has been appointed as the Social Welfare Department's agent to provide services for Portable CSSA recipients. It is part of the agent's contractual duties to provide escort service for and conduct home visits to Portable CSSA recipients and to help with processing applications for burial grant.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB015

Question Serial No.

0078

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please list the distribution of the 108 net posts to be deleted and state the amount of savings arising from this exercise.

Asked by : Hon LI Fung-ying

Reply : The 108 net posts to be deleted is the result of the creation of ten posts and the deletion of 118 posts, distributed as follows :

<u>Creation of posts</u>	+8	Social Security Assistant	
	+1	Senior Systems Manager	
	+1	Workman II	+10 posts
<hr/>			
<u>Deletion of posts</u>	-41	Senior Social Security Assistant	
	-2	Statistician	
	-3	Statistical Officer I	
	-8	Assistant Clerical Officer	
	-57	Clerical Assistant	
	-7	Office Assistant	-118 posts
<hr/>			
		<u>Net deletion :</u>	<u>-108 posts</u>

The NAMS (Notional Annual Mid-point Salary) values to be saved as a result of the net deletion of these posts are \$23.1m in 2001-02.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB016

Question Serial No.

0079

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : It is planned to increase the number of child protection workers in the Government sector to 83 in 2001-02.

- (a) What is the estimated number of children to be served?
- (b) What is the amount of additional expenditure required?

Asked by : Hon LI Fung-ying

- Reply :
- (a) The estimated number of children to be served in 2001-02 is approximately 2 930.
 - (b) The additional expenditure required is \$12.2m, including \$11.5m for staff cost, \$0.6m for programme expenses and \$0.1m for office expenses.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB017

Question Serial No.

0098

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please state the establishment and distribution of the 8 Integrated Teams focusing on services for young night drifters.

Asked by : Hon LI Fung-ying

Reply : The Administration will provide one additional Assistant Social Work Officer and two additional Social Work Assistants for expansion of each of the selected eight integrated teams run by non-government organisations for the coverage of services for young night drifters (YNDs). These eight integrated teams will be allocated to districts where there is a high concentration of YNDs, namely three in New Territories East, two in New Territories West, and one each in East Kowloon, West Kowloon and Hong Kong Regions. The allocation of resources for strengthening another ten IT teams to provide services for YNDs was announced in the 2001-02 Budget Speech. We will decide their actual distribution in consultation with relevant parties.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB018

Question Serial No.

0099

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the proposed recruitment of unemployed youth to work as programme assistants in youth welfare facilities, what will be the size of recruitment, the distribution and the related expenses?

Asked by : Hon LI Fung-ying

Reply : In 2001-02, 460 Programme Assistant jobs will be created under the Young People Programme, of which 394 will be provided in the children and youth services of the non-government organisations while 66 will be for the youth and community services of the Social Welfare Department. The total provision for the above posts is \$29.7m. It should be noted that while the intention is to give preference to unemployed young people, there is no specific age restriction in the recruitment. Beyond the Young People Programme, an extra 830 Programme Assistants are funded in 2001-02. They will be deployed in various rehabilitation and elderly service units.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>15 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB019

Question Serial No.

0126

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : With regard to CSSA applications involving low earnings applicants,
(a) what is the estimated number of such applications?
(b) what is the estimated number of successful applications?
(c) what is the estimated expenditure involved?
(d) do the above figures represent any increase or decrease against the past statistics? Please provide a detailed breakdown.

Asked by : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

Reply : (a) For the purpose of estimating the total number of cases served and assessing the consequential impact on performance pledge, the number of CSSA applications under the "low earnings" category in 2001-02 is projected to be 5 200.

(b) & (c) The success or otherwise of an application would depend on the applicant's eligibility and individual circumstances that merit discretionary treatment. Irrespective of the case nature of the applications, we do not project the number of successful applications, or the expenditure arising from such.

(d) The projections for CSSA expenditure are made on the basis of projected average number of cases with authorised payment. The number of CSSA cases with authorised payment under the "low earnings" category in 2001-02 is projected to be 9 500, which would represent an increase of 25% when compared with 2000-01. The projected expenditure involved in 2001-02 is \$700m.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB020

Question Serial No.

0127

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As the Government has tightened the criteria for granting CSSA to the elderly since 1999, please state :

- (a) The decrease in the number of successful CSSA applications from elders who are living with their family members.
- (b) The consequential decrease in CSSA expenditure.

Asked by : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

Reply : To encourage family support and ensure that CSSA is given only to those who are in genuine need, we have since June 1999 implemented more vigorously the already established policy to require all CSSA applicants (including elderly applicants) to apply on a household basis if they are living with other income earning family members under the same roof and enjoying the benefit of shared household facilities.

Social Welfare Department has collected statistics from February 2000 to January 2001 on applications for CSSA by elderly persons living with family members. Out of 233 such new applications, 110 were withdrawn by the applicants when the policy was explained to them, 45 were found not eligible and financial assistance was granted in the other 78 cases. As withdrawn and ineligible applications would not be processed any further, we do not have information on the consequential decrease in CSSA expenditure.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding CSSA applications from families of new arrivals,

- (a) what is the estimated number of such applications in the coming year? When compared against the figure of last year, what is the difference?
- (b) what is the estimated expenditure? When compared against the actual expenditure of last year, what is the difference?

Asked by : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

- Reply :
- (a) For the purpose of capturing CSSA management information, "new arrivals" are defined departmentally as those who have come to Hong Kong for less than one year. Under the present system, to be eligible for CSSA, applicants are required to have resided in Hong Kong for at least one year. However, in exceptional circumstances, the Director of Social Welfare may exercise her discretion to grant assistance to applicants who do not satisfy the residence requirement. Thus, the existing or estimated number of "new arrival" CSSA cases refer departmentally as those which have been granted CSSA on discretion. Since it is not possible to estimate in how many cases under which such discretion will be exercised, we cannot provide an estimate of the number of such applications in the coming year. As at the end of 2000, there were about 700 CSSA recipients who had resided in Hong Kong for less than one year.
 - (b) For the reasons given in (a), we do not have figures on the estimated CSSA expenditure arising from applications from new arrival families in the coming year. The expenditure on recipients who have resided in Hong Kong for less than one year in 2000-01 is about \$20m.

Signature	
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB022

Question Serial No.

0151

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Of the estimated additional provision of residential places in 2001-02, 1 380 will be provided by private homes. How many of the remaining 1 161 places will be provided by new homes allocated through open tender?

Asked by : Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee

Reply : In 2001-02, we will provide an additional 2 541 subsidised residential places for the elders. Among which, 809 will be commissioned in new homes or through in situ expansion in existing homes. These beds have been or will be allocated to designated non-government organisation service operators. Of the remaining 1 732 places, we tentatively plan to acquire 1 380 under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme and allocate 352 to service operators of some or all of the six new homes to be commissioned through open and competitive bidding.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB025

Question Serial No.

0071

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 341 – Lotteries Fund Subhead : 330 Hong Kong
Non-recurrent Children and Youth
Grants Services

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The 2001-02 Estimate for the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services is \$248,000. On what basis have you arrived at such figure?

Asked by : Hon Eric LI Ka-cheung

Reply : The 2001-02 Estimate of \$248,000 for the Hong Kong Children and Youth Services is made up as follows :

- (a) \$1,000 for Item 012, Implementing “District-Based Network Employment Support Programme” in Hunghom Family Service Centre;
- (b) \$1,000 for Item 013, Implementing “District-Based Network Employment Support Programme” in Tai Po Children and Youth Integrated Service Centre; and
- (c) \$246,000 for Item 014, “Fitting-out, Furnishing & Equipping the Yung Shing Small Group Home (1), (2) and (3)”.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB026

Question Serial No.

0122

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head 106 – Miscellaneous Services

Subhead (No. & title) : 778 Public education programme to promote acceptance of people with disabilities by the community

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The provision under this Subhead is reduced drastically from the revised estimate of \$2,400,000 for 2000-01 to the current estimate of \$535,000, representing a decrease of nearly 78%.

- (a) What are the reasons?
- (b) How will the resources be utilized to implement the public education programme to promote acceptance of people with disabilities by the community?

Asked by : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

Reply : (a) Since 2000-01 provision of about \$2 million has been included in Subhead 238 of the Recurrent Account for public education on rehabilitation. The provision in Capital Account Subhead 778 for 2000-01 was to meet the cost of organizing the Rehabilitation Millennium Programme (a one off project). The unspent balance (\$535,000) carried forward to 2001-02 under this Subhead will be used together with the provision available in Subhead 238. In other words, in terms of the annual provision for running regular public education rehabilitation programmes, it remains at about \$2 million per annum.

/(b)

- (b) Under the steer of a sub-committee of the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, the resources will continue to be allocated to District Councils, NGOs and self-help organizations to run seminars, exhibitions, open days, carnivals and workshops etc. The aim of these is to promote a positive image of persons with disabilities, showcasing their talents and facilitating their integration into the community. The resources are also used to organise large scale publicity activities such as the Mental Health Month, International Day for Disabled Persons' Celebration, and TV/Radio Announcements of Public Interest.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date 13 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB027

Question Serial No.

0316

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please give details on the enrolment rate of and expenditure for the After School Care Programme.

Asked by : Hon YEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : The Administration has allocated \$21.8m to non-government organisations to provide a total of 6 000 places for children in need of after school care all over the territory. The average utilization rate for the period from September 2000 to December 2000 is 90%.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB028

Question Serial No.

0337

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The provision of \$14.5 billion under Subhead 179 Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme represents an increase of \$1.006 billion over the revised estimate for 2000-01. Could you provide the estimated increase in applications regarding different types of social security assistance cases in 2001-02 and the reasons behind such increase?

Asked by : Hon NG Leung-sing

Reply : The projected increase in CSSA expenditure is worked out on the basis of the projected change in the average number of CSSA cases with authorised payment. The projected changes in CSSA cases with authorised payment by nature of case between 2000-01 and 2001-02 are :

<u>Name of case</u>	Projected change in average no. of CSSA cases with authorized payment in 2001-02 as compared with 2000-01
Old age	+7 100
Disabled	+ 700
Ill health	+2 100
Single parent	+1 900
Low earnings	+1 900
Unemployment	-1 800
Others	*

Notes : *Less than 50

The projections are not based on any precise scientific analysis. They are worked out having regard to the recent trend in changes in CSSA cases and taking account of the non-cash limited nature of the CSSA scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB029

Question Serial No.

0338

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Among the provision of \$40,068m for expanding existing services for elders, how much would be spent on the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) to frail elders? How will the amount be distributed in improving respective elderly services and what are those areas? How many elders will benefit from the EHCCS Scheme?

Asked by : Hon NG Leung-sing

Reply : Provision for elderly services in 2001-02 will increase by \$454.4m. A sum of \$140m has been earmarked for providing additional Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) for frail elders to enable them to continue to live at home through an individualised package of personal and nursing care, home-making, meal, rehabilitation exercise, carer support and respite services etc. At the time of preparing the 2001-02 Draft Estimates, we estimated that an additional 2 520 elders will benefit from this increased provision of EHCCS. However, in the light of a higher service output obtained through competitive bidding of the first batch of EHCCS contracts in 2000-01, we project that we may be able to provide service to an additional 2 800 elders in total through the increased provision in 2001-02.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB030

Question Serial No.

0374

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : It is estimated that 180 places would be offered each year at the Home for the Aged Blind under the residential service targets both for 2000-01 and 2001-02, representing a reduction of almost 40% from 296 for 1999-2000. What is the reason for the reduction and to what extent the service is affected ?

Asked by : Hon Bernard CHAN

Reply : With the improvement in medical rehabilitation and development of community support services, the enrolment rate of Home for the Aged Blind (H/AB) facilities has been persistently low (74% in 1997, 62% in 1998 and 58% in 1999). On the other hand, there has been a demand for Care and Attention Home for the Blind (C&A/AB). The enrolment rate of C&A/AB from April to December 2000 is 98% and the number of waitlisted cases in January 2001 is 267. To put public resources to more optimal use and to meet the demand of C&A/AB services, a total of 116 H/AB places have been converted into 50 C&A/AB places by 2000-01 on a cost neutral basis, noting that the operating cost of the latter is considerably higher than the former. The conversion can better reflect the demand of service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>15 March 2001</u>

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
- (a) Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases in the last two financial years, what are the respective numbers of and expenditure on the various types of CSSA cases including old age, disabled, ill health, single parent, low earnings, unemployment and others? What are the estimated numbers of and provision for the various types of cases in 2001-02?
- (b) The number of Social Security Allowance cases to be served in 2001-02 will increase by 25 500 (4.2%). What are the reasons for such increase?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

- Reply :
- (a) The total CSSA expenditure in 1999-2000 was \$13,623m and that for 2000-01 is estimated to be \$13,494m. Based on a sample study of CSSA recipients at the end of 1999* which is the latest study we have completed, the estimated number of cases with authorised payment and the estimated average monthly assistance payable by nature of case are provided below for reference:

<u>Nature of case</u>	<u>Estimated number of cases with authorised payment</u> (Nov 1999)	<u>Estimated average monthly assistance payable per case in \$</u> (Nov 1999)
Old age	126 000	4,400
Disabled	11 200	5,250
Ill health	15 700	5,820
Single parent	25 100	7,890
Low earnings	7 300	6,320
Unemployment	21 600	5,470
Others	2 700	6,300

* Note : Results from the survey conducted in 2000 are not available yet.

The projected average number of cases with authorised payment and the projected CSSA expenditure by nature of case for 2001-02 are :

<u>Nature of case</u>	<u>Projected average number of cases with authorised payment in 2001-02</u>	<u>Projected CSSA expenditure in 2001- 02 (\$bn)</u>
Old age	133 900	7.6
Disabled	11 800	0.8
Ill health	20 300	1.4
Single parent	25 400	2.4
Low earnings	9 500	0.7
Unemployment	16 600	1.2
Others	3 500	0.3

- (b) The increase in the projected number of cases to be served under the Social Security Allowance Scheme in 2001-02 is mainly due to increases in the projected number of cases served under the category of Normal Disability Allowance (+11.6%) and Higher Old Age Allowance (+7.3%).

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
- (a) What are the numbers of applications for Higher Old Age Allowance and Normal Old Age Allowance in the past two financial years and what is the Government's financial commitment involved? What are the estimated number of applications and the provision for each type of allowance in 2001-02?
- (b) What is the Social Welfare Department's provision for implementing the Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme in 2001-02? What is the financial commitment involved in providing burial grants and better escort service to the participants?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

- Reply :
- (a) The actual and projected numbers of applications and expenditure for Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) and Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) from 1999-2000 to 2001-02 are :

<u>Type of allowance</u>	<u>Actual number of applications in 1999-2000</u>	<u>Projected number of applications for</u>	
		<u>2000-01</u>	<u>2001-02</u>
HOAA	9 902	12 000	13 100
NOAA	33 840	33 100	32 200

<u>Type of allowance</u>	<u>Actual expenditure in 1999-2000</u>	<u>Projected expenditure for</u>	
		<u>2000-01</u>	<u>2001-02</u>
	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)
HOAA	2,459	2,631	2,948
NOAA	1,005	966	938

- (b) The estimated total expenditure on Portable CSSA payments for the year 2001-02 is \$89m, including \$0.4m for burial grants. A non-government organisation has been commissioned as the Social Welfare Department's agent to provide escort and other services for Portable CSSA recipients and help with processing applications for burial grant. The contract fee for the year 2001-02 is \$1.8m.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
- (a) The number of additional social centres for the elderly was reduced from 10 in 2000-01 (Plan) to 3 in 2000-01 (Estimate). What are the reasons for that? What is the provision for the additional 7 social centres planned for 2001-02?
 - (b) The number of additional multi-service centres for the elderly was reduced from 3 in 2000-01 (Plan) to 1 in 2000-01 (Estimate). What are the reasons for that? What is the provision for the additional 3 multi-service centres planned for 2001-02? In what districts will they be located?
 - (c) The number of additional day care centre places for the elderly was reduced from 200 in 2000-01 (Plan) to 140 in 2000-01 (Estimate). What are the reasons for that?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

- Reply :
- (a) The number of additional social centres for the elderly planned to be set up in 2000-01 was revised from 10 to 3. We need to examine the service need for social centres for the elderly in the light of the recommendations of the review of day and community care services.

The financial provision for the 7 additional social centres in 2001-02 is \$5.5m.

- (b) The number of additional planned multi-service centres for the elderly was revised from 3 to 1 in 2000-01. We will, in light of the recommendations of the review of day and community care services, examine the service needs for multi-service centres and explore ways to provide better integrated care facilities and services for elders. The provision for the 3 multi-service centres for 2001-02 is \$8.8m. They will be located at :

- (1) Ma On Shan Area 77
- (2) Tung Chung Area 31
- (3) Tseung Kwan O Area 22

- (c) The number of additional day care centre places for the elderly was revised from 200 to 140 in 2000-01. We will, in light of the recommendations of the review of day and community care services, examine the service needs for day care centre places and explore ways to provide better integrated care facilities and services for elders.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : A total provision of \$3,248m is made under the programme area of "Services for Elders" to promote the well-being of the elderly. Please give information on the following:

- (a) A breakdown of the total provision for residential care services and community support services for the elderly respectively as well as the corresponding figures for the past three financial years;
- (b) The financial arrangements for the "Opportunities for the Elderly Project" which will continue to be launched by the Social Welfare Department in 2001-02;
- (c) The estimated total amount of dementia supplement to be provided by the Social Welfare Department to residential care homes for the elderly in 2001-02 and whether there is an increase in the amount as compared with 2000-01?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

- Reply :
- (a) The estimated expenditure of residential care services and community support services for the elderly in 2001-02 and the corresponding figures for the past three years are at Appendix.
 - (b) The Opportunities for the Elderly Project is a 3-year project with an allocation of \$11m from the Lotteries Fund. It was launched in January 1999 to provide grants for community organisations to plan and organise innovative programmes, including continuous learning, community participation, senior volunteerism and inter-generational activities to foster

care and respect for the elderly. Up to January 2001, financial subsidy of \$4.9m has been granted under the Project to various organisations to carry out 551 activities, benefiting 560 592 participants. The estimated grant for organising activities in 2001-02 is \$2.8m. Applications for funds of such activities can be submitted to Social Welfare Department in response to an annual invitation exercise. They will be considered by district vetting committees set up under Social Welfare Department.

- (c) In 2001-02 we will provide dementia supplement to meet special care needs of 381 demented elders in subvented residential care homes. The number of supplements to be granted is the same as that for 2000-01. The total provision, at \$14.2m, however, is lower than that provided in 2000-01 by \$1.4m due to the Enhanced Productivity Programme (EPP) and the adjustment to civil service starting salaries.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Total Expenditure on Social Welfare Services for Elderly

	<i>1999-2000</i>	<i>2000-01</i>	<i>2001-02</i>
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>Draft</i>
	<i><u>Expenditure</u></i>	<i><u>Estimate</u></i>	<i><u>Estimate</u></i>
	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>	<i>\$m</i>
<u>Community Support Services</u>			
<i>Carers' Support & Resource Centre</i>	7.0	5.2	6.0
<i>Day Care Centre</i>	104.4	116.0	135.4
<i>Multi-Service Centre</i>	105.7	113.4	132.4
<i>Social Centre</i>	181.6	190.4	211.4
<i>Outreaching</i>	32.5	36.3	42.0
<i>Holiday Centre</i>	9.7	6.9	9.8
<i>Pool Bus</i>	1.3	1.5	1.6
<i>Home/Community Care for the Elderly</i>	0.0	32.0	165.7
<i>Home Help/Home Care & Meal Services</i>	346.0	389.5	394.2
	-----	-----	-----
	788.2	891.2	1,098.5
<u>Residential Services</u>			
<i>Nursing Home</i>	174.7	206.0	237.9
<i>Sheltered Housing</i>	8.2	4.1	4.2
<i>Care & Attention Home</i>	608.5	684.6	787.5
<i>Hostel for the Elderly</i>	398.5	409.8	407.8
<i>(includes combined homes)</i>			
<i>Transit Shelters</i>	3.5	3.5	3.5
<i>Home cum Care & Attention Unit</i>	237.9	239.0	239.4
<i>Bought Place Scheme/Enhanced Bought Place Scheme</i>	159.7	259.0	372.5
	-----	-----	-----
	1,591.0	1,806.0	2,052.8
<u>Central Support Services</u>			
<i>Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly</i>	46.1	43.7	40.9
<i>Residential Care Services Delivery System for the Elderly</i>	5.8	6.2	6.8
<i>Placement Office for the Elderly</i>	27.6	26.4	25.8
<i>Gate-Keeping</i>	0.2	20.1	21.7
<i>Training for Care Staff</i>	0.0	0.0	1.5
	-----	-----	-----
	79.7	96.4	96.7
Total	2,458.9	2,793.6	3,248.0

Bureau Serial No.

HWB035

Question Serial No.

0428

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The enrolment rate for day care centres for the elderly exceeded 100% in the past two years and the same case is expected this year. Apart from the 60 additional places planned to be provided in the Estimates, will the Government further revise the Estimates to increase the number of day care centre places?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The Government plans to provide 60 places of day care centres for the elderly in 2001-02. We have completed a consultancy study on the review of elderly day services in 2000. One of the recommendations points to the need to develop an integrated mode of elderly services such as attaching day care centres to residential care homes for the elderly or multi-service centres for the elderly. The Government is examining the possibility of implementing this integrated mode of care facilities for elders in a few premises identified in order to increase the service provision in day care and achieve a more flexible use of manpower and resources.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB036

Question Serial No.

0429

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What publicity campaign(s) will be launched by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to enhance public awareness towards care for the elderly and what is the provision involved? Does SWD have any plans to launch publicity campaign(s) on prevention of elder abuse?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Carers' support centres, multi-service centres, support teams for the elderly and social centres for the elderly regularly organise public education programmes and publicity activities to promote care and concern for elders. Prevention of elder abuse is one of the themes covered by these activities. In 2001-02, a provision of \$500,000 has been earmarked for publicity and community education programmes. In addition, with support from the Lotteries Fund, a 3-year "Opportunities for the Elderly Project" has been in place since January 1999. Under the project, subsidies are provided to community organisations and volunteer groups for activities designed to enhance inter-generational communication and promote harmonious family relationship. To further address the issue of elder abuse, the Department has set up a task force comprising various professionals and academic bodies. The first draft of the "Handbook on Combating Elder Abuse" has been completed and is now under consultation by various parties concerned. Besides, the Department has supported 2 non-government organisations through a Lotteries Fund grant of \$6.3m to implement a 3-year pilot project on prevention of elder abuse from March 2001 with services including crisis intervention, casework counselling, outreaching services and community education.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB037

Question Serial No.

0375

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead(No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

It is estimated that the number of nursing trainee would drop from 1,519 in 2000-01 to 323 in 2001-02. Please explain the drop; to what extend would the services of the Hospital Authority be affected?

Asked by : Hon Bernard Chan

Reply :

The reduction in nurse trainees is due to the upgrading of basic nursing education from a hospital-based nursing education to degree level in tertiary institutions. While there will be a consequential reduction in the number of nurse trainees employed by the Hospital Authority, this will be offset by the planned increase of 850 additional qualified nurses. HA services would not be affected by such a change in staff mix.

Signature

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 13 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB038

Question Serial No.

0396

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 149 : Government Secretariat Subhead (No. & title) :
Health and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (1) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As regards the creation of two posts by the Health and Welfare Bureau to support care services for elders, what are the ranks and duties of these posts?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : One Senior Administrative Officer post and one Senior Executive Officer post will be created in the Health and Welfare Bureau to enhance the support in elderly services. The Senior Administrative Officer will mainly assist in developing policies and strategies in relation to long-term care, including integrated long-term care for the elders, interface between medical and long-term care services, residential and home/community care services for the elders and manpower supply and training for services for the elders. The Senior Executive Officer will provide secretarial support to the Elderly Commission and to assist in administering the Healthy Ageing Programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters DR YEOH ENG KIONG

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date 13 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB039

Question Serial No.

0548

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : 274 600 outreach services attendances are expected to be provided by the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams in this financial year. What is the provision for this service ?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

The financial provision in 2001-02 for operating the outreach services provided by the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams is \$68 million.

Signature

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB040

Question Serial No.

0549

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 and 979 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : Does the Hospital Authority have any plans to introduce Chinese medicine services to the Public Hospital System in this financial year? If yes, what are the details and the estimated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Hospital Authority is exploring with non-government organizations and tertiary education institutes the feasibility of setting up pilot Chinese Medicine (CM) clinics in public hospitals in collaboration with these organisations. The objectives of such a pilot scheme are to foster the development of CM practice and a model of collaboration among CM and other health care practitioners in Hong Kong. We are not able to advise on resource implications at this stage.

Signature

Name in block letters

 Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

 Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB041

Question Serial No.

0637

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 5 Rehabilitation

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Estimates states the Department currently runs six child assessment centres which are responsible for referring children for placement in special schools and special child care centres. What are the numbers of children referred by the Department for placement in (a) special schools and (b) special child care centres in 1999, 2000 and 2001?

Asked by : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Reply :

The number of children referred by the Child Assessment Service for placement is as follows :

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
Special schools	281	361
Special child care centres	1 198	1 128

* Relevant figures for 2001 is not yet available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB042

Question Serial No.

0638

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the indicators for dental treatment cases:

- (1) what are the details of the special needs group; and
- (2) what is the reason for the continuous increase in number of patients of the group since 1999?

Asked by : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Reply :

- (1) The special needs group includes patients with serious and disabling oral diseases, mental and physical handicaps requiring special facilities in hospital for dental treatments, and those with specific medical diseases such as haemophilia.
- (2) The increase in number of patients treated was the result of phased extension of services to special needs patients to three more hospitals and streamlining of procedures.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB043

Question Serial No.

0639

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Will there be any provision allocated to the Tobacco Control Office in 2001 to enhance anti-smoking? If yes, please provide with the details.

Asked by : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Reply :

A new Tobacco Control Office (TCO) has been set up to enhance the Government's anti-smoking efforts. The TCO comprises a Senior Medical & Health Officer, a Nursing Officer, three Tobacco Control Officers, three Assistant Tobacco Control Officers, and two clerical staff. In addition to these, up to 100 Smoke-Free Ambassadors (temporary staff) will be recruited to assist the Office in nurturing a smoke-free culture in Hong Kong. The total estimated expenditure for 2001-02 is \$18M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB044

Question Serial No.

0676

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The financial provision under Programme (3) Health Promotion for 2001-02 represents an increase of 24.2% over that for 2000-01. Please set out details of the programme and staff arrangements.

Asked by : Hon Eric LI Ka-cheung

Reply :

The increase in the provision of 2001-02 Estimates for Health Promotion is mainly to cater for the implementation of the following projects:

- a) Tobacco Control (\$15M): About 100 temporary staff will be engaged as Smoke-Free Ambassadors to assist in the enforcement of the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance and to nurture a smoke-free culture. They will visit shopping malls and restaurants to deliver anti-smoking messages to the public and conduct exhibitions.
- b) Healthy Ageing Campaign (\$2.3M): About 23 temporary staff will be engaged to provide support to the outreach programmes on exercise and healthy eating for elderly in the community and residential homes.

These staff will lead group exercise and assist in the production of health education materials and evaluation of the programmes.

- c) Enhancement of Health Promotion Programme (\$6.2M): About 62 temporary staff will be engaged to assist in health education activities. These include health exhibitions, carnivals, competitions and campaigns organised in collaboration with schools and community groups. Such activities aim to enhance health awareness and encourage adoption of healthy lifestyle, including a balanced diet and regular physical activity.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB045

Question Serial No.

0677

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please set out in detail the manpower required for supporting health promotion and the Healthy Ageing Campaign and the expenditure arrangements for the whole programme.

Asked by : Hon Eric LI Ka-cheung

Reply :

The total provision for the Department's health promotion activities under Programme (3) in 2001-02 is \$100.8M, involving 149 staff and 185 temporary staff. Within this provision, \$6.2M for 62 temporary staff is provided for enhancement of health promotion and \$2.3M for 23 temporary staff is provided for departmental programmes in the Healthy Ageing Campaign. The Campaign is further supported by a 3-year \$21M grant from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust to undertake community participation projects.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB046

Question Serial No.

0475

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : There will be a net reduction of 108 posts arising from the implementation of Computerized Social Security System and phasing out of the pilot scheme on Support for Self-reliance Scheme in 2001-02. Are these non-civil service posts? How much expenditure do they represent in 2001-02?

Asked by : Hon Eric LI Ka-cheung

Reply : The 108 posts to be deleted are all civil service posts. The NAMS (Notional Annual Mid-point Salary) value to be saved as a result of deletion of these posts is \$23.1m in 2001-02.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB047

Question Serial No.

0546

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
- (a) An additional 1 153 places of care-and-attention homes and 1 730 places of private homes for the aged under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme will be provided. What are the respective financial commitments for provision of these places?
 - (b) What is the estimated expenditure in 2001-02 on the provision of enhanced home and community care services which have come into operation in March 2001?
 - (c) How many Care Assistants will be provided to day care centres for the elderly and day care centres for the demented elderly in 2001-02? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

- Reply :
- (a) The provisions for 1 153 care-and-attention places and 1 730 places under Enhanced Bought Place Scheme are \$61.1m and \$72.7m respectively.
 - (b) The total provision for setting up 18 Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) teams in each of the District

Council districts in March 2001 is about \$64m. The Social Welfare Department has earmarked an additional amount of \$140m to set up more EHCCS teams in districts with higher service demand in 2001-02.

- (c) 78 Care Assistants will be employed and the estimated provision is \$6.9m.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB048

Question Serial No.

0547

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please state in detail the programme on encouraging the use of computers by the elderly, the estimated number of computer or information technology training places to be offered to the elderly under the programme, as well as the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2000-01, the Social Welfare Department and the Information Technology Services Department have jointly launched an "IT Awareness Programme for the Elderly" from November 2000 to March 2001. The number of elders who have benefited from the programme was 5 000 and the cost was \$0.8m. In order to promote wider use of computers and information technology by elders, it has been pledged in the 2000 Policy Address that in 2001-02, the Government will :

- (a) install 280 personal computers (PC) at 246 multi-service centres and social centres for the elderly and provide Internet access points at the said

locations to benefit a total of 176 000 registered members of these centres, involving a total of \$4.6m (i.e. \$2.5m for 280 PCs and \$2.1m for Internet access); and

- (b) provide information technology (IT) training for another 5 000 elders involving \$0.8m.

The \$5.4m required will be sought from the Lotteries Fund.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB049

Question Serial No.

0554

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

(a) The budget for Children and Youth (CY) services for subvented sector will increase by \$11.5m in 2001-02. How will the amount be distributed among the planned improvement items, i.e.

- 4 news SSW posts
- implementation of Understanding the Adolescent Project in 40 secondary schools
- expanding 8 ITs to provide services for young night drifters
- expanding 1 IT to include Community Support Service Scheme
- employment of Programme Assistants in youth services

(b) There is a reduction of \$3.9m in the budget for CY services provided by the Government. What accounts for this reduction?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

(a) The increase of \$11.5m in the Young People Programme in 2001-02 is derived from comparing the 2001-02 Estimate with the 2000-01 Revised Estimate. It should be noted that expenditure in the subvented sector under this Programme had exceeded the original Estimate for 2000-01 by \$97.5m, part of it reflecting some one-off expenditure in 2000-01. The increase of \$11.5m in 2001-02 is therefore the net result of additional provision for new service

initiatives and the phasing out of the one-off expenditure. In 2001-02, additional provision for the Young People Programme in the subvented sector is \$50.4m, made up of :

	<u>Amount</u> \$m
• Full year effect of project implemented in 2000-01	11.2
• 4 new SSW posts	1.3
• Implementation of Understanding the Adolescent Project in 40 secondary schools	2.0
	<u>Amount</u> \$m
• Expanding 8 ITs to provide services for young night drifters	9.5
• Expanding 1 IT to include Community Support Service Scheme	1.4
• Employment of Programme Assistants in youth services	23.7
• Additional provision for various services	1.3
	<hr/> 50.4

The above is partly offset by the following reductions, as compared to the 2000-01 Revised Estimate :

	<u>Amount</u> \$m
• Adjustments for the closure of certain service units under the Fundamental Expenditure Review (FER) and the FER effects	18.0
• Tide-over grant to maintain the salaries of 82 staff from 16 non-government organisations in need of job placement arising from FER is only required in 2000-01	5.0
• Deflation adjustment for 2001-02 provision for other charges, rent and rates	6.5
• Adjustment for the part year effect due to the lapsing of 23 SSW teams in 2001-02	3.0
• Adjustment made in the revised apportionment of SWD's administrative cost to this Programme	3.4
• Other minor adjustments for various services	3.0
	<hr/> 38.9

(b) For the government sector of this Programme, the 2001-02 Estimate includes additional provision of \$3.1m for the hiring of Programme Assistants to support youth services, departmental expenses in administering the “Understanding the Adolescent Project” in secondary schools and additional programme expenses for the Local Committees for Young People. Despite this, the 2001-02 Estimate shows a net reduction of \$3.9m. This is due to the transfer of \$4.6m of the support cost of voluntary services from this Programme to other programmes and the reduction of \$2.4m in the apportionment of Social Welfare Department’s administrative cost to this Programme after reviewing the costing for 2001-02. In addition, Financial Secretary has earmarked \$84m in the draft Estimates, rising to about \$180m by 2003-04, to launch a comprehensive programme of support services for youth at risk.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB050

Question Serial No.

0555

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) According to the Government's estimation, the caseload of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme (CSSA) will rise by 1.4% in the coming year. Please explain why the estimated expenditure has to increase by 7.5% (Subhead 179).
- (b) Similarly, the caseload of the Social Security Allowance (SSA) is expected to increase by 4.3%. Please explain why the estimated expenditure has to increase by 7.9% (Subhead 180).

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The number of cases served under CSSA Scheme is projected to increase by 1.4% in 2001-02. Cases served refer to the cases handled by the Social Security Field Units which include new applications, cases being reviewed, cases closed during the year, cases authorised with payment, and cases suspended for payment pending review. For the purpose of estimating changes in CSSA expenditure, we focus on the projected change in number of cases with authorised payment. On the basis of the projected increase of 5.7% in average number of CSSA cases with authorised payment between 2000-01 and 2001-02, we have projected a 7.5% increase in CSSA expenditure.
- (b) The number of cases served under the SSA Scheme is projected to increase by 4.3% in 2001-02. Cases served refer to the cases handled by the Social Security Field Units which include new applications, cases being reviewed, cases closed during the year, cases authorised with payment, and cases suspended for payment pending review. For the purposes of estimating changes in SSA expenditure, we focus on the projected change in number of cases

with authorised payment. On the basis of the projected increase of 8.6% in average number of SSA cases with authorised payment between 2000-01 and 2001-02, we have projected a 7.9% increase in SSA expenditure.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB051

Question Serial No.

0556

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2001-02, there will be a net reduction of 108 posts. What are the posts being affected?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The 108 net posts to be deleted is the result of the creation of ten posts and the deletion of 118 posts, distributed as follows :

Creation of posts	+8	Social Security Assistant	
	+1	Senior Systems Manager	
	+1	Workman II	+10 posts
<hr/>			
Deletion of posts	-41	Senior Social Security Assistant	
	-2	Statistician	
	-3	Statistical Officer I	
	-8	Assistant Clerical Officer	
	-57	Clerical Assistant	
	-7	Office Assistant	-118 posts
<hr/>			
		Net deletion :	<u>-108 posts</u>

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB052

Question Serial No.

0557

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the expected resource implication of the implementation of risk management approach in the administration of social security schemes?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : SWD will commission a consultancy firm in 2001-02 to conduct a full scale study on risk management related to the operation of the CSSA and SSA Schemes. A consultancy fee of \$3m has been earmarked for the study. As we have yet to complete the study, it is not possible at this stage to assess the resource implications involved in adopting a risk management approach in the administration of the social security schemes.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB053

Question Serial No.

0665

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In the Estimate, the Government announced its plan to implement the policy of "One School Social Worker for Each Secondary School" in all secondary schools in Hong Kong. Could you please state:

- (a) How many secondary schools in Hong Kong have not yet achieved the target of "One School Social Worker for Each Secondary School"?
- (b) What is the average caseload for a Social Worker working for the schools mentioned above?

Asked by : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Reply : (a) The Administration has fully implemented "one school social worker for each secondary school" in September 2000. In the 2000-01 school year, all the 456 secondary schools are provided with their respective school social worker. From the 2001-02 school year, all newly commissioned secondary schools will each be provided with one school social worker.

- (b) The estimated caseload per school social worker in 2000-01 is 93.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB054

Question Serial No.

0680

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

(a) In spite of an increase of 500 day nursery places in 2001-02, the estimated number of day nursery places in 2000-01 is less than that planned in the previous Estimates by 406. What are the reasons for the reduction? The number of day nursery places in the Lady Trench Training Centre was reduced from 113 to 38. What are the reasons for that and why was the reduction not mentioned in the 2000-01 Estimate? Why was the phasing out of the day nursery in the Centre in 2001-02 not accounted for until the presentation of the 2001-02 Draft Estimate?

(b) What are the enrolment rates of day creches and day nurseries, and the utilization rate of occasional child care service?

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) In the 2000-01 Estimate, the planned day nursery places for 2000-01 in both the government and subvented

sectors was 29 220, while the corresponding figure in the 2001-02 Estimate is 28 814. The difference of 406 places is due to slippage of 200 places to 2001-02 arising from an unexpected delay in the completion of the premises, and a reduction of 206 places in five existing nurseries located in areas with declining demand as proposed by the respective operating agencies.

The Lady Trench Day Nursery is the only nursery operated by the Government. The nursery was established 31 years ago as a demonstration nursery. With the training function now taken up by academic institutions and sufficient provision of day nursery places by non-government organisations in the district, we proposed to phase out the nursery in June 2000 and have consulted the users. This phasing out plan is therefore not reflected in the 2000-01 Estimate. In order not to affect children attending the nursery, it is agreed with parents that ample time should be allowed for them to prepare for the transition and arrangement of alternative placement, and the phasing-out plan will be spread over two years. The first phase of reduction in capacity from 113 places to 38 places took place in 2000-01. The phasing out of the remaining 38 places will take place in 2001-02.

- (b) As at the end of January 2001, the average enrolment rate of aided day creche and aided day nursery is 83% and 90% respectively. The utilisation rate of occasional child care service is 54%.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB055

Question Serial No.

0681

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the financial and staffing provisions for providing pre-migration service in the Mainland? What is the estimated number of service recipients and in which part(s) of the Mainland will the service be available?

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has earmarked resources of \$7m per annum for setting up four pre-migration service centres in the Mainland in 2001-02. We intend to invite non-government organisations (NGOs) to operate this service. The additional resources obtained are based on a staffing complement of 6.25 per center. However, the allocation will be made in the form of a lump sum grant. This means that the NGOs will have flexibility in deciding on the staffing provision required to deliver the service. We estimate that the four pre-migration service centres will be able to serve at least 3 000 persons who have been approved to come to Hong Kong on one way permit each year. As over 80% of the new arrivals are coming from the Guangdong Province, we

propose to set up the four pre-migration service centres in different locations within the Guangdong Province .

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB056

Question Serial No.

0682

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of child protection workers increased from 55 in 2000-01(Plan) to 63 in 2000-01 (Estimate). What are the reasons for the increase? The number of supervision cases per worker will be increased, why then is the cost per case per month higher? Are there any changes to the establishment of the Child Protective Services Unit?

Asked by : Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : The increase of 8 workers are funded through internal redeployment of resources within the Social Welfare Department in 2000-01 to cope with increased demand for service arising from an increase in the number of supervision cases (i.e. from 1 785 in the 2000-01 original Estimate to 2 675 in the 2000-01 revised Estimate). We believe that the increase in the number of cases is mainly due to enhanced public education and as a result, professionals, members of the public and family members will more readily seek early intervention when child abuse is suspected.

In the 2001-02 Estimate, the cost per case per month is estimated to be \$1,059 in 2000-01 and \$1,410 in 2001-02. The higher cost for 2001-02 is due to additional manpower provided and strengthening of services in handling child

abuse and domestic violence cases. Moreover, the above mentioned additional staff to meet an increase in workload was only provided in the fourth quarter of 2000-01, resulting in a lower unit cost in 2000-01.

The establishment of the Family and Child Protective Services Units has increased from 48 in 1999-2000 to 63 caseworkers by the end of March 2001, and will be further increased to 83 caseworkers in 2001-02.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB057

Question Serial No.

0683

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of family caseworkers, clinical psychologists and family aide workers was reduced from 761, 46 and 41 in 2000-01 (Plan) to 734, 39 and 34 in 2000-01(Estimate) respectively. What are the reasons for the reduction? Will the standard of service be affected?

Asked by : Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : The reduction in the number of family caseworkers of 27 is made up of a reduction of 39 family caseworkers in Social Welfare Department, offset by an increase of 12 family caseworkers in the non-government organisations sector. The reduction in Social Welfare Department is due to the deletion of posts in 2000-01 under the exercise to contain the size of the civil service and transfer of posts to non-government organisations. The standard of service is not affected as the posts deleted were unfilled at the time of deletion. Cases requiring service are taken up by case workers in family service centres. Through vigorous caseload management, the average caseload per worker in the government sector in 2000-01 is estimated to be contained at 67 cases per worker, which is only slightly above the original estimate of 66 made in the 2000-01 Estimate.

The difference in the number of clinical psychologists is due to the general recruitment freeze of the civil service in 2000-01. In order to provide prompt clinical psychology service under the recruitment freeze, eight non-civil service contract clinical psychologists have been employed. The standard of service has not been affected.

The reduction of 7 family aide workers of Social Welfare Department in 2000-01 is a result of Enhanced Productivity Programme as the utilisation rate of the service was only 74% in 1999-2000. After deleting the posts, the average utilisation rate of the service for the period April 2000 to December 2000 has improved to 96%. The existing manpower is able to meet service demand and the standard of service is not affected.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB058

Question Serial No.

0684

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : It is noted that in 2001-02, the Social Welfare Department will provide strengthened services to assist victims of sexual violence and domestic violence and people with marital problems; provide additional professional support to strengthen protection of children and families from domestic violence; and strengthen intervention programmes and public education for prevention of child abuse and spouse battering. Please state the resources and additional staffing allocated to each of these services. Will these services be provided by different organisations? Which organisations will be providing the services?

Asked by : Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : In 2001-02, an amount of \$16m basing on a tentative estimation of 38 posts is proposed for strengthening services to assist victims of sexual violence and domestic violence and people with marital problems, provide additional professional support to strengthen protection of children and families from domestic violence, and strengthening intervention programmes for prevention of child abuse and spouse

battering. Tentatively, this includes setting up of a family crisis support centre to be run by non-government organisation for distressed persons facing marital and family problems, additional manpower provision to the Family and Child Protective Services Units of Social Welfare Department for handling child abuse and domestic violence cases. The priority in providing these services and the number of posts to be created will be subject to the advice of the Women's Commission.

In addition, an amount of \$2.7m is estimated for providing public education and publicity programmes at territory-wide and district level on prevention of child abuse and spouse battering, and organising joint training programmes to enhance multi-disciplinary intervention. As most of these activities will be undertaken jointly by the Social Welfare Department and non-government organisations, and the three areas are closely related, it is not possible to give a further breakdown on the cost of each item.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB059

Question Serial No.

0685

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Support for Self-reliance Scheme, and the pilot scheme of Job Matching and Special Job Attachment Programme under the Promoting Self-reliance strategy, what is the staff establishment and expenditure involved? While the caseload and services are increasing, why does the size of staff under programme (2) reduce from 1 947 last year to 1 614 in 2001-02?

Asked by : Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : Expenditure of \$7.9m in 2000-01 and \$16m in 2001-02 is required to employ 103 non-civil service contract Employment Assistance Co-ordinators to implement the Active Employment Assistance Programme under the Support for Self-reliance Scheme and extend it to cover all able-bodied unemployed Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients. No additional staff establishment and expenditure is required for the Job Matching Pilot Scheme and Special Job Attachment Programme under the Promoting Self-reliance strategy.

The reduction in the number of staff from 1 947 in 2000-01 to 1 614 in 2001-02 is due to the following :

- (a) implementation of the Computerized Social Security System (CSSS) in October 2000 which enables the processing of social security cases to be fully automated, hence releasing manpower which was previously required for such processing. This is in line with the commitment given by the department to achieve annual savings through the deletion of posts upon the implementation of the system when approval was given by the Finance Committee in November 1997 to develop the CSSS;
- (b) the lapse of time-limited projects; and
- (c) reduction in the establishment of the department arising from the initiative to contain the size of the civil service.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB060

Question Serial No.

0686

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding those CSSA cases not meeting the residence requirement but granted with discretionary approval by DSW, please state the expenditure involved and caseload in 1999-2000 and 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively?

Asked by : Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : Under the present system, applicants are required to have resided in Hong Kong for at least one year in order to be eligible for CSSA. However, in exceptional circumstances, the Director of Social Welfare may exercise her discretion to grant assistance to applicants who do not satisfy the residence requirement. The numbers of CSSA recipients granted discretion under these circumstances as at end-1999 and end-2000 are 1 200 and 700 respectively. The CSSA expenditure on these recipients for 1999-2000 and 2000-01 was about \$61m and \$20m respectively. Since it is not possible to estimate how many future applications will be approved on

this discretionary basis, we cannot provide an estimate of the number of cases or the expenditure involved for 2001-02.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB061

Question Serial No.

0687

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the number of Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients who received escort service in 2000-01? What is the expenditure involved? Please list the breakdown of the expenditure.

Asked by : Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : Until the end of February 2001, 13 Portable CSSA recipients had received escort service (4 from Hong Kong to Guangdong and 9 from Guangdong back to Hong Kong).

A non-government organisation has been commissioned as the Social Welfare Department's agent to provide a range of services, including escort service, for Portable CSSA recipients. The contract fee for the year 2000-01 is \$1.8 million. There is no separate breakdown available for the escort service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB062

Question Serial No.

0833

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

WRITTEN QUESTION

Head 106 – Miscellaneous Services

Subhead (No. & title) : 778 Public education programme to promote acceptance of people with disabilities by the community (Capital Account)

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The revised estimate under Subhead 778 Public education programme to promote acceptance of people with disabilities by the community was \$2.4m for 2000-01, but the estimated expenditure for 2001-02 sharply drops to \$535,000. What are the reasons for this?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : Since 2000-01, \$2 million has been included in Subhead 238 of the Recurrent Account for public education on rehabilitation. The provision in Capital Account Subhead 778 for 2000-01 was to meet the cost of organizing the Rehabilitation Millennium Programme (a one off project). The unspent balance (\$535,000) will be carried forward to 2001-02 under this Subhead, and used together with the provision available in Subhead 238. In other

words, in terms of the annual provision for organising public education rehabilitation programmes, it remains at about \$2 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date 13 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB063

Question Serial No.

0742

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In its reply to a question raised by a Member (Bureau Serial No. HWB 132; Question Serial No. 0628) last year, the Department indicated that there are six clinics under the Department that are recognized as training centres for family medicine by the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians, but no training posts for Family Physicians would be created in the next three years. However, the Department requests a 10.7% rise in provision for next year partly for 'developing a family-focused, holistic and integrated primary healthcare service'.

- (a) Please provide details of the increase in provision.
- (b) Will it include the creation of training posts for Family Physicians? How can it be in line with the proposal in the Consultation Document on Health Care Reform that the Department of Health's out-patient service be transferred to the Hospital Authority with the clinics serving as training centres?
- (c) And if the proposals in the Consultation Document on Health Care Reform are implemented, will the six clinics previously assigned as recognized training centres be wasted?

Asked by : Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

- (a) The increase of \$114.1M (10.7%) in the 2001-02 provision under Programme 2 is due to the following :

	<u>\$M</u>
(i) provision for annual salaries creep and filling vacancies	36
(ii) increase in the provision for pathology services due to commissioning of the Public Health Laboratory Centre, the Laboratory Automation System and related consumables	31
(iii) increase in capital expenditure such as replacement of dental chairs for Student Dental Services and other maintenance work	17
(iv) additional provision for carrying out tests for biotoxins and viruses in shellfish under the food surveillance programme	5
(v) additional provision for restructuring and enhancing the Department's existing preventive services, with a view to developing, in the long term, a family-focused, holistic and lifelong programme for the community, including piloting a new adolescent programme, planning a territorial-wide cervical screening programme for women and developing a programme for men's health	5
(vi) additional subvention to Family Planning Association for renovation work and filling vacancies	3
(vii) others such as additional provision for carrying out vision and hearing screening tests for primary one school students	17
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	114
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>

- (b) There is no provision for training posts for family medicine in the establishment of Department of Health (DH). The training at DH clinics which are certified as training centres by the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians is incidental to service.

- (c) The Consultation Document on Health Care Reform proposes to transfer all general out-patient clinics from Department of Health to the Hospital Authority. Detailed arrangements for family medicine training will be worked out in due course in the light of the outcome of the public consultation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB064

Question Serial No.

0743

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Department will increase expenditure to enhance manpower for the purpose of the Chinese Medicine Ordinance in the next year for the fourth year. What is the justification for further recruitment of temporary staff in the next year?

Asked by : Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong

Reply : Additional posts are required to implement in phases statutory control over Chinese medicines, including licensing of traders and manufacturers of Chinese medicines, inspection of licensed premises and registration of proprietary Chinese medicines.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB065

Question Serial No.

1030

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the indicators of 'registration applications from healthcare professionals processed', what is the basis for projecting a sharp increase from 4 000 in 2000 to 11 970 in 2001?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

Under the registration exercise for Chinese medicine practitioners, some 8 000 applications were received by the end of 2000. The processing work is being carried out in 2001.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB066

Question Serial No.

1031

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) In respect of the recruitment of temporary staff for implementation of the new statutory requirements upon enactment of the Chinese Medicine Ordinance, what are the ranks and scope of work of such temporary staff proposed? Why are the manpower requirements to be met by recruitment of temporary staff instead of by permanent posts?
- (b) In addition to the employment of temporary staff, will there be other expenditure required for supporting the Chinese Medicine Council to implement regulatory measures for Chinese medicines? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) The recruitment of temporary scientific officers and clerical staff in addition to permanent staff is required to cope with the heavy workload at the initial stage of the implementation of statutory control cover Chinese medicines, including licensing of traders and manufacturers of Chinese medicines, inspection of premises and registration of proprietary Chinese medicines.

- (b) In addition to the above, a provision of \$2M will be required for legal fees, publicity and publications in support of the implementation of the regulatory measures for Chinese medicines.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB068

Question Serial No.

1033

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 149 Health and Welfare Bureau Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the objectives of the Healthy Ageing Campaign? Who are its target participants? How many are expected to benefit from the Campaign? Will it be organized by the Department of Health or other voluntary organizations through provision of funds? If funds are provided to other voluntary organizations for organizing the Campaign, what are the funding criteria?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The objective of the Healthy Ageing Campaign is to promote individuals' physical and psychosocial wellbeing. Since the achievement of healthy ageing requires a total life-course approach, the target audience of the Campaign is the community at large, with particular emphasis on elders, to convey the message that it is never too late to practise healthy ageing.

A two-pronged approach will be adopted in the implementation of the Healthy Ageing Campaign: (a) sustained public education and publicity efforts by government departments and agencies; and (b) involving the community extensively through a Community Partnership Scheme.

As regards the beneficiaries, part (a) of the Campaign will aim at the community at large including the elders, whereas part (b) will focus on elders. The number of elderly beneficiaries under part (b) will however depend on the number of programmes/projects that will be supported under the Community Partnership Scheme and the scale of the projects.

The Health and Welfare Bureau, the Department of Health, the Social Welfare Department and the Hospital Authority will jointly take a lead in launching the Campaign. Other departments such as the Home Affairs Department, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Information Services Department, Radio Television Hong Kong, Housing Department, etc. will also be invited to take part. To co-ordinate departmental efforts, the Elderly Commission has set up a Steering Group and three committees to oversee different components of the Campaign.

A Community Partnership Scheme set up with a \$21 million grant from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust will provide funding for various sectors of the community, including district organizations and welfare non-government organizations, to organize healthy ageing programmes/projects. A Steering Group on Healthy Ageing set up by the Elderly Commission will consider the vetting criteria for the Community Partnership Scheme. Generally, the programmes/projects will have to align with one of the four strategic directions on healthy ageing, namely, promoting personal responsibility, strengthening community action, creating a supportive environment and improving the image of ageing.

Signature : _____

Name in block letters : Dr E K YEOH

Post Title : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date : 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB069

Question Serial No.

1034

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) What is the financial provision for setting up the proposed Tobacco Control Office? When will it be set up? Have targets been set on reducing the number of smokers after the establishment of the Tobacco Control Office? If yes, what is the targeted number? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) What is the difference between the work objective, scope of service and targeted group of the Tobacco Control Office and the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health that has been operated for years? Are there any effectiveness assessment mechanisms for both organizations?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

A Tobacco Control Office (TCO) has been set up in February 2001. The provision for 2001-02 is \$18M. The TCO will focus its efforts on educating and assisting the public to comply with the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (the Ordinance), which is part of the overall strategy to contain tobacco promotion and minimize the exposure of the public to secondhand smoke. Smoking prevalence is affected by multiple factors and is not a good indicator for reflecting the effect of law

compliance in the short term. The work of the TCO will be evaluated by a before-and-after intervention survey which ascertains the changes in restaurant managers' knowledge of and compliance with the Ordinance.

While the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH) will continue its role in providing anti-smoking education to the general public, the TCO will coordinate the Government's tobacco control efforts. Its priority is to facilitate managers and staff of no-smoking areas and tobacco retailers to comply with the law. The output of COSH is being monitored in terms of amount and coverage of health education activities and number of research performed.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB070

Question Serial No.

1036

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 9 Personnel Management of Civil Servants Working in
Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : It is estimated that the number of civil servants working in Hospital Authority will be decreased from 5 381 in 2000 to 5 147 in 2001. What are the posts to be reduced and the reasons for the reduction? Will there be additional recruitment or deployment of manpower to make up the vacancies?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The number of civil servants working in Hospital Authority (HA) is expected to be reduced in 2001 mainly due to retirement. The posts concerned are listed in the Appendix. HA will take into account this anticipated wastage in its manpower planning and recruitment of HA employees.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Civil service posts deleted in 2000-01

Rank	No.
Consultant	1
Departmental Operations Manager	3
Chief Electrical Technician	1
Ward Manager	3
Nursing Officer	14
Nursing Officer (Education)	1
Nursing Officer (Psychiatric)	3
Medical Technologist	1
Medical Laboratory Technician I	1
Registered Nurse	5
Enrolled Nurse (Psychiatric)	1
Enrolled Nurse	12
Occupational Therapy Assistant	3
Senior Hospital Foreman	1
Hospital Foreman	1
Operating Theatre Assistant	5
X-Ray Mechanic	1
Artisan	7
Cook	13
Darkroom Technician	3
Laboratory Attendant	2
Laundry Worker	5
Health Care Assistant	13
Machinist	1
Ganger	1
Gardener	1
Property Attendant	9
Ward Attendant	83
Amah III	1
Workman I	7
Workman II	31
Total :	234

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Bureau Serial No.

HWB071

Question Serial No.

1037

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

1. What will be the number of additional temporary staff recruited for the implementation of the Chinese Medicine Ordinance as mentioned in the Programme?
2. Will the Department recruit additional non-temporary staff for the implementation of the Ordinance? If yes, what will be the number and the nature of work?

Asked by : Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

- (1) The additional staff in the provision for 2001-02 include five Scientific Officers and five clerical staff.
- (2) There is no such plan at this stage.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB072

Question Serial No.

1038

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : One of the matters requiring special attention in 2001-02 is the establishment of a Tobacco Control Office by the Department. Please set out the establishment, estimated provision for 2001-02 and specific work plan of the office.

Asked by : Hon Fred LI Wah-ming

Reply :

The Tobacco Control Office (TCO) is staffed by a Senior Medical & Health Officer, a Nursing Officer, three Tobacco Control Officers, three Assistant Tobacco Control Officers and two clerical staff. In addition to these, about 100 temporary staff will be recruited to serve as Smoke-Free Ambassadors. The TCO will coordinate the Government's tobacco control efforts. It will focus on educating and assisting managers and staff of public places to carry out their statutory requirements under the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance on no-smoking areas and nurturing a smoke-free culture in Hong Kong. The provision for 2001-02 is \$18M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB073

Question Serial No.

1039

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 149 Health and Welfare Bureau Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please give details of the objectives and programmes of the Healthy Ageing Campaign, as well as dates of implementation.

Asked by : Hon. Fred LI Wah-ming

Reply : The objective of the Healthy Ageing Campaign is to promote individuals' physical and psychosocial wellbeing. Since the achievement of healthy ageing requires a total life-course approach, the target audience of the Campaign is the community at large, with particular emphasis on elders, to convey the message that it is never too late to practise healthy ageing.

The Health and Welfare Bureau, the Department of Health, the Social Welfare Department and the Hospital Authority jointly take a lead in launching the Healthy Ageing Campaign. Other departments such as the Home Affairs Department, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Information Services Department, Radio Television Hong Kong, Housing Department, etc. will also be invited to take part. To co-ordinate departmental efforts, the Elderly Commission has set up a Steering Group and three committees to oversee different components of the Campaign.

A two-pronged approach will be adopted in the implementation of the Healthy Ageing Campaign: (a) sustained public education and publicity efforts by government departments and agencies; and (b) involving the community extensively through a Community Partnership Scheme.

The focus in the first year of the Campaign will be on the promotion of physical wellbeing, highlighting the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. This will be followed by the promotion of psychosocial wellbeing with continued reinforcement on the promotion of physical wellbeing.

A Healthy Ageing Convention will be held in May 2001 to promulgate the healthy ageing concept and promotional strategies, as well as to launch a Community Partnership Scheme. The Community Partnership Scheme is supported by a \$21 million grant from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. Under the Scheme, funding support would be provided to various sectors of the community, including district organizations and welfare non-government organizations, to organize healthy ageing programmes/projects. The programmes/projects will have to align with one of the four strategic directions on the promotion of healthy ageing, namely, promoting personal responsibility, strengthening community action, creating a supportive environment and improving the image of ageing.

Signature : _____

Name in block letters : Dr E K YEOH

Post Title : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date : 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB074

Question Serial No.

1040

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What specific plans do general out-patient clinics have in 2001-02 to address the problems caused by the abuse of accident and emergency service by non-urgent patients in public hospitals?

Asked by : Hon Fred LI Wah-ming

Reply :

The Department will continue to publicise its Sunday/public holiday clinic service through mass media, paging systems, the Medi Link of the Hong Kong Medical Association, Internet at the Department's website and the 24-hour telephone information service. The Department will also liaise with the Hospital Authority (HA) and other departments to distribute posters and location maps of these clinics for display at HA hospitals, public housing estates, centres for the elderly, District Offices of the Home Affairs Department and District Council Members' offices to promote the use of the Department's service.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB075

Question Serial No.

1041

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the districts that fall short of the planning target of one general out-patient clinic for every 100 000 population? What are the districts where additional general out-patient clinics are planned?

Asked by : Hon Fred LI Wah-ming

Reply :

The ratio in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines is for general planning purpose and is applied with flexibility to meet different district needs. Overall, this ratio has been achieved. The utilisation of clinic services at district level is closely monitored.

A new clinic at Fanling is planned for completion in 2002.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB076

Question Serial No.

1042

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the financial provision for and establishment of the Student Health Service in 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively? How many school children participating in the Service have to be referred to receive other treatments? Please show the breakdown by the nature of other treatments.

Asked by : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The financial provision for the Student Health Service in 2000-01 and 2001-02 is \$130M and \$139M respectively. The establishment of Student Health Service for the year 2000-01 and 2001-02 is as follows :

	<u>Establishment</u>
Medical Officer Grade	31
Nursing Grade	134
Supplementary Medical Grade	11
Administrative & Support Grades	116
Total	292
	====

In the school year 1999-2000, 56 019 referrals were made for investigation, assessment, diagnosis and management of various problems as follows:

	<u>Main reasons</u>	<u>No. of Referrals</u>
Private Optometrists	Eyesight problems	40 448
Hospital Authority Specialist Clinics	Height & weight problems Spine problems Foreskin problems	12 890
Department of Health Specialised Clinics	Skin problems Developmental delay Learning problems	1 275
Education Department	Hearing and speech problems Academic problems	928
Social Welfare Department	Family problems Social problems	365
Others		113
<hr/>		
Total		56 019 =====

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB077

Question Serial No.

1043

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please set out the number of consultations in general out-patient clinics in 2000-01. How many consultation discs were allocated to the elderly?

Asked by : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply :

In 2000, there were over 4.86 million attendances at the general out-patient clinics, of which 4.13 million were consultations. Some 1.45 million consultations were provided to the elderly.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB078

Question Serial No.

1044

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the operating hours of evening/Sunday/public holiday out-patient clinics in 2000-01? What are the number of attendances and utilisation?

Asked by : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The operating hours, attendances and utilisation rates in 2000 are as follows:

	Operating hours	Attendance	Utilisation (%)
Evening clinics	6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	929 364	84.8
Sunday clinics	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	201 910	81.1
Public holiday clinics	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.		

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB079

Question Serial No.

1491

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the cost for every emergency treatment to patients attending dental clinics?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The unit cost for emergency dental treatment is \$111.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB080

Question Serial No.

1221

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please provide figures of additional provision required for developing a family-focused, holistic and integrated primary healthcare service. What are the services included in these primary healthcare services?

Asked by : Hon IP Kwok-him

Reply :

An additional provision of \$5M will be allocated to the Department in 2001-02 to support its efforts to re-structure and enhance its existing preventive services, with a view to developing, in the long term, a family-focused, holistic and lifelong health programme for the community. Initiatives to be carried out in 2001-02 will include –

- (a) piloting a new adolescent health programme;
- (b) planning a territorial-wide cervical screening programme for women; and
- (c) developing a programme for men's health.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB081

Question Serial No.

1222

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please provide the total expenditure, number of attendances and number of enrolment of various Woman Health Centres.

Asked by : Hon IP Kwok-him

Reply :

In 2000, the total attendance and enrolment in the three Woman Health Centres were as follows:

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Enrolment</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Lam Tin	5 230	9 950
Chai Wan	4 930	9 930
Tuen Mun	<u>5 340</u>	<u>10 120</u>
Total	<u>15 500</u> =====	<u>30 000</u> =====

A provision of \$18M is allocated for the Woman Health Service in 2000-01.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB082

Question Serial No.

1223

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please provide the amount of subvention for the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong for the provision of family planning services in the past three years?

Asked by : Hon IP Kwok-him

Reply :

The total amount of subvention, including capital subvention, for the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong in the past three years was :

<u>Financial Year</u>	<u>\$ M</u>
1997-98	33.3
1998-99	37.8
1999-2000	37.2

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB083

Question Serial No.

1224

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : A 24.2% increase in the budget for 2001-02 is scheduled.
Which are the key areas of increase? Please list the budget for the
different areas of work.

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The key areas of increase fall on tobacco control, health promotion and the Healthy Ageing Campaign. The budget for the different areas of work under programme 3 Health Promotion is as follows:

	2001-02 <u>Estimate</u>
	\$M
Health Promotion	42
AIDS Counselling	15
Oral Health Education	22
Tobacco Control	18
Healthy Ageing Campaign	2
Subventions to Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health, Hong Kong St John Ambulance and Hong Kong Red Cross	<u>22</u>
Total	121 ===

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB084

Question Serial No.

1225

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the subvention for the two Chinese Medicine Clinics run by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals in 2000-01 and the estimate for 2001-02?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The annual subvention for the two Chinese Medicine Clinics run by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals is \$3.1M for both 2000-01 and 2001-02.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB085

Question Serial No.

1226

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : When the 2000-01 approved budget is compared with the revised estimate, the revised estimate in all the nine programmes are lower than the approved estimate. What are the main reasons? Is a similar situation expected in 2001-02 fiscal year?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The main reasons accounting for the decrease in the 2000-01 revised estimate as compared to the original estimate are :

- a. rescheduling of the capital expenditure on the Laboratory Automation System due to re-tendering and the consequential rescheduling of the procurement of its related consumables and equipment;
- b. reduction in the provision for temporary staff expenditure due to recruitment difficulties;
- c. general price reduction of the maintenance services provided by Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund; and

d. reduction in subvention payments mainly because of the delay in commencement of a new residential drug treatment centre.

A similar situation is not expected in 2001-02.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB086

Question Serial No.

1227

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) : 000 Operational Expenses
511 Subvented Institutions

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) On what services will the expenditure on salaries be mainly spent under subhead 511 Subvented institutions?
- (b) With reference to subheads 000 and 511, what is the average cost of contracting out dental prostheses?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The provision in the 2001-02 draft estimate under subhead 511 Subvented Institutions covers the following services :
- family planning services provided by Family Planning Association of Hong Kong
 - first aid training and services provided by Hong Kong St. John Ambulance and Hong Kong Red Cross
 - dental training provided by Prince Philip Dental Hospital
 - Chinese medicine out-patient services provided by Tung Wah Group of Hospitals

- residential treatment for drug abusers provided by Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers, Caritas Hong Kong and Hong Kong Christian Service
- tobacco control provided by Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health

(b) The average cost for contracting out dental prostheses in 2000-01 is \$552.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB087

Question Serial No.

1228

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please set out the average cost and charges for each consultation in general out-patient clinics, specialised clinics, dental clinics, student health service clinics, school dental clinics, maternal and child health centres, woman health centres, elderly health centres and other major services in the year 2000-01.

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The 2000-01 average cost and charges of the Department's major services are as follows:-

<u>Service</u>	<u>2000-01 Average Cost^(Note)</u>	<u>Charges</u>
(a) General out-patient clinic	\$217	\$37
(b) Specialised out-patient clinic	\$636	\$44
(c) Emergency dental treatment for general public	\$111	Free
(d) Student health service centre	\$283	Free
(e) School dental clinic	\$543	\$20 per annual enrolment

<u>Service</u>	<u>2000-01 Average Cost</u>	<u>Charges</u>
(f) Maternal & child health centre		
- Child health service	\$296	Free
- Maternal health service	\$553	Free
- Family planning service	\$325	\$1
(g) Woman health centre	\$715	\$310 per annual enrolment
(h) Elderly health centre	\$655	\$110 per annual enrolment

Note: For items (a), (b), (c) and (f), the average cost means the average cost per attendance.

For items (d), (e), (g) and (h), the average cost means the average annual cost in respect of each enrolment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB088

Question Serial No.

1229

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 5 Rehabilitation

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the respective number of cases handled by child assessment centres on comprehensive assessment, remedial treatment, and referrals for placement in special schools and special child care centres in the year 2000-01?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The required information on the work of the child assessment centres in 2000 is as follows :

Cases assessed	5 574
Cases treated	1 412
Referrals for placement in special schools	361
Referrals for placement in special child care centres	1 128

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB089

Question Serial No.

1230

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Is there any resources specially allocated to Oral Health Education Unit to provide educational activities for the elderly aged 65 or above? If yes, please provide details including number of activities and attendances by the elderly.

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The Oral Health Education Unit (OHEU) promotes oral health through educational and promotional activities and the training of facilitators to disseminate oral health information to all age groups including the elderly. In 2000, OHEU conducted a total of 1 359 activities with 123 563 attendances. In addition to these, some 300 oral health activities were provided for about 9 000 elderly in collaboration with the Elderly Health Services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB090

Question Serial No.

1231

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the respective utilisation rates of maternal and child health centres and woman health centres and the cost of each consultation? What are the respective provision and staff establishment in the years 2000-01 and 2001-02? What are the numbers of referral cases for hospital services and the main reason for such referrals?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

In 2000, the average utilisation rate of the Woman Health Centres was 81%. A total of 3 677 referrals were made to specialists for management. These were related to gynaecological, breast and other medical conditions.

The Maternal and Child Health Centres provide promotive and preventive health services for children from birth to five years and women below 65 years. There is no service quota. In 2000, a total of 1 372 000 attendances were recorded and 24 821 referrals were made to specialist clinics. Among the referrals, 22 497 were made for children with paediatric, eye and other conditions, and 2 324 were made for women with gynaecological, surgical and other conditions.

The provision and establishment for the years 2000-01 & 2001-02 and unit costs are as follows:-

	<u>2000-01 revised estimate (\$M)</u>	<u>2001-02 estimate (\$M)</u>	<u>2000-01 & 2001-02 establishment</u>	<u>Unit cost^(Note)</u>
Woman Health Centre (WHC)	18	20	27	\$715
Maternal & Child Health Centre (MCHC)	395	419	820	
- child health service				\$296
- maternal health service				\$553
- family planning service				\$325

Note : The unit cost of WHC is the average annual cost in respect of each enrolment; whereas the unit cost of MCHC is the average cost per attendance.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB091

Question Serial No.

1232

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In the year 2000-01, the Department indicated that 25 new posts would be created and 4 posts redeployed to deal with i) registration of Chinese medicine practitioners, ii) licensing of traders and manufacturers of Chinese medicines, iii) inspection of licensed premises and iv) registration of proprietary Chinese medicines. In respect of the above 4 areas of work, please give an account of the actual workload, and whether these posts will be retained.

Asked by : Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

The posts concerned are being deployed to handle some 8 000 applications for registration as Chinese medicine practitioners received in 2000, and to support the work of the Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong. The posts will continue to be required for the licensing of traders and manufacturers of Chinese medicines, inspection of licensed premises and registration of proprietary Chinese medicines, in addition to the continuing work on registration of Chinese medicine practitioners.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 15 March 2001

Reply :

The information required is provided below:

(1) Provision in 2000-01

Head	Names of consultants	Consultancy fees (\$)	Status of consultancy studies
149	MDR Technology Ltd.	300,000	Finished
149	MDR Technology Ltd.	330,000	Finished
149	The University of Hong Kong	195,000	Finished
149	CityU Professional Services Ltd.	226,020	Finished
149	University of Hong Kong	317,600	In progress
149	University of Hong Kong	330,000	In progress
170	MDR Technology Ltd.	365,400	In progress
170	University of Hong Kong	1,120,000	In progress
170	Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu	380,000	Finished
170	University of Hong Kong	500,000	Finished
170	MDR Technology Ltd.	300,000	Finished
170	University of Hong Kong	500,000	In progress
37	Australian Council on Healthcare Standards	289,000	In progress
37	Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, the University of Sydney	155,420	In progress

(2) Provision in 2001-02

(a) Consultancy awarded

Head	Names of consultants	Consultancy fees (\$)	Status of consultancy studies
149	University of Hong Kong	150,000	In progress
170	MDR Technology Ltd.	156,600	In progress
37	Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, the University of Sydney	95,452	In progress

(b) Consultancy under planning*

Head	Nature of Study	Consultancy fees (\$)
170	Risk management of social security schemes	3,000,000
170	Home help service, home care and enhanced home and community care services	Not yet available

* **NOTE** : Does not include consultancies which may arise during the financial year in response to issues and on the advice of commissions/advisory boards.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date 19 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB093

Question Serial No.

0832

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 149 : Government Secretariat Subhead (No. & title) :
Health and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (1) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Provision for 2001-02 is \$2.9 million (6.2%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000-01, and the decrease in expenses is partly offset by the creation of two posts to support care services for elders. What are these two posts? Are they temporary or permanent? What are the duties of these posts?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : One Senior Administrative Officer post and one Senior Executive Officer post will be created in the Health and Welfare Bureau to enhance the support in elderly services. The Senior Administrative Officer will mainly assist in developing policies and strategies in relation to long-term care, including integrated long-term care for the elders, interface between medical and long-term care services, residential and home/community care services for the elders and manpower supply and training for services for the elders. The Senior Executive Officer will provide secretarial support to the Elderly

Commission and to assist in administering the Healthy Ageing Programme. Both are permanent posts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters DR YEOH ENG KIONG

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date 13 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB094

Question Serial No.

0862

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 149 - HWB

Programme : 01 Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : In last year's Policy Address, the Chief Executive undertook to create new job opportunities in areas where more social investment was required. It was estimated that 7 000 new jobs would be created and the Health and Welfare Bureau was responsible for coordinating the related plans. In this connection, would the Administration set out the details of provision for these plans, including the respective total amounts allocated to various government departments, the types and number of posts to be increased and the estimated total emoluments for the staff filling the posts?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : Regarding the creation of 7,000 posts under the poverty-alleviation initiative, the financial allocation to bureaux/departments over the next two financial years will be as follows:

Bureau/department	Amount (\$million)
Hospital Authority	486
Social Welfare Department	457

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	127
Home Affairs Department	121
Department of Health	59
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	24
Water Supplies Department	11
Drainage Services Department	4
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	3

Initial returns received from bureaux/departments indicate that the following type and number of jobs will be created -

Type of Posts	Estimated Number
Care Assistant	2000
Programme Assistant	1400
Cleansing Worker	1000
Construction Worker	500
Campaign Workers (anti-smoking, healthy ageing and Clean HK)	400
Personal Care Worker	220
Workman	140
Social Work Officer/Welfare Worker	110
Driver	80
Clerical Staff	30
Inspector (for monitoring undesirable medical advertisements)	20
Others (including supervisors, project organisers, foreman etc.)	1100
Total	7000

This information is only indicative, at this stage. The exact numbers have yet to be finalized, as some of the posts will be created by NGOs under a Lump Sum Grant arrangement and non-Government bodies under a contracting-out arrangement.

As regards the emoluments for staff occupying these posts, current indications are that the salary for the majority of full-time non-professional posts will range from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per month.

Signature : _____

Name in block letters : Dr E K YEOH

Post Title : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date : 19 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB095

Question Serial No.

1337

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 149 Government Secretariat:
Health and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the financial provision required for continuing with the Review on Hong Kong's Health Care System? When will the results of the consultation be released? Will the Administration conduct a second round of consultation exercise in the light of the results? When will the whole review exercise be expected to complete?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : We have reserved a provision of \$8million in 2001-02 for the setting up of a Research Office, which will continue with the work of the health care sector reform proposals, including the conduct of further studies, and collection of relevant data.

Collation and analysis of comments and suggestions received on the health care sector reform proposals will commence immediately upon the end of the consultation period. The subsequent steps to be taken including the exact timing of the release of the consultation results would depend on the comments, suggestions and submissions received and their divergence, complexity and numbers.

Subject to the views received for the more complicated and contentious proposals, such as the Health Protection Account, further studies and public consultation are envisaged. Some of the other proposals that are generally supported could be implemented, incrementally over the next few years. The entire reform exercise involves an evolution of the whole health system with different components proceeding at different paces, and should be regarded as a continuous process over the coming decade or so.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K YEOH _____

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health and Welfare _____

Date _____ 20 March 2001 _____

Bureau Serial No.

HWB096

Question Serial No.

1338

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 149 – Government Secretariat:
Health and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

(a) Provision for promoting women's interests in 2001-02 is \$23.7 m. Please provide details about the following and their respective expenditure:

- 1) the Women's Division;
- 2) studies and researches; and
- 3) public education programmes.

(b) Please provide details about the collection of women-related statistical data in cooperation with the Census and Statistics Department.

(c) Please provide details about the regular meetings with local women's groups and the relevant arrangements. What are the criteria for selection of local women's groups for such meetings?

(d) How are women services reviewed and prioritised? Is the review an on-going one? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Reply :

(a) For 2001-02, recurrent funding of \$23.73 million is provided under Head 149 to support the work of the Women's Commission. Subject to the deliberation of the Women's Commission,

- some \$9.22 million would be used to support the staff and administrative expenditure of the Women's Division in the Health and Welfare Bureau; and
- an amount of \$12 million would be used to support the work of the Women's Commission including commissioning studies, surveys and researches on women's issues and their needs; as well as to support publicity and public educational programmes and gender-related training to civil servants. The Women's Commission may seek the assistance of other organisations in carrying out these activities.

(b) A fair amount of statistics currently compiled by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) already contain breakdowns by sex. Many departments are also compiling specific women-related statistics in their respective areas. The Women's Commission will work with C&SD on analysis of the sex-disaggregated statistics currently available; publication of reports on sex-disaggregated statistics; and collection of further sex-disaggregated data.

Special thematic household surveys would also be conducted to collect additional specific sex-related data which are considered useful but not currently available. Funding at about \$2 million has been set aside for this purpose.

(c) The Women's Commission will organise, two to three times each year, focus group meetings with local women groups and service agencies to discuss issues of common interest and share experiences. These meetings will be open to the public and will be advertised through the media. Any interested groups or parties are welcome to register and attend. The next meeting is likely to be held in late May.

In addition, the Women's Commission has embarked on a programme of visits to local women's groups and service agencies. So far, the Commission has visited 12 organisations/groups. More visits are being planned.

- (d) The Women's Commission is tasked to keep under review services delivered within and outside the Government and to identify priority areas for action, and monitor the development of new or improved services. The Women's Commission is in the process of identifying services that require priority action. It has an open mind on its future direction of work and will take into account views and suggestions put to it when it formulates its future work direction and priorities.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K YEOH

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB097

Question Serial No.

1339

**Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 149 – Government Secretariat : Subhead (No. & title) :
Health and Welfare Bureau

Programme : (1) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the detailed work plan for reviewing the social security payments to elders in 2001-02?

Asked by : Hon LAU Chin-shek

Reply : The Chief Executive has announced in his 2000 Policy Address that the Government will complete a review of the Old Age Allowance (OAA) in a year's time to see if the livelihood of those elderly who depend largely on OAA for a living can be further improved. The Government is formulating proposals to take the review forward. We expect to be able to finalize our proposals in the second half of the year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date 15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB099

Question Serial No.

0936

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

1. Does the Administration know whether the Hospital Authority (HA) has contracted out its services to the private sector?
2. What services have been contracted out?
3. What are the total number of contracts and gross contract values in each of the past 3 years by types of service?
4. How many civil service posts of higher, middle and lower ranks# have been reduced in each of the past 3 years as a result of contracting out of services? What is the amount of salary and allowances involved?

Lower rank post : MPS Point 9 or below;
Middle rank post : MPS Point 10 to 33;
Higher rank post : MPS Point 34 or above.

Asked by : Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

1. The Hospital Authority (HA) has contracted out some of its non-core supporting services to the private sector.
2. Services that have been contracted out by HA include domestic services, security services, gardening, pest control and laundry services.
3. The total number of contracts and gross contract values are listed as follows:

Type of Service	Total No. of Contracts			Gross Contract Value (HK\$M)		
	98/99	99/00	00/01 (estimate)	98/99	99/00	00/01 (estimate)
Domestic	8	9	14	28.3	29.0	50.7
Security	5	6	10	5.3	6.4	8.6
Gardening	5	5	6	0.7	0.9	0.9
Pest Control	29	32	32	2.3	2.3	2.0
Laundry Services	3	3	3	3.9	4	3.9

4. Contracting out of HA's non-core services are normally implemented in new hospitals, or by phases in existing hospitals under the guiding principle that this should not result in redundancy. In this connection, no civil servant has been made redundant as a result of contracting out of services. Unlike government departments, the HA does not operate an "establishment" system which embodies civil service posts and vacancies. As such, information on the number of posts reduced arising from contracting out of services is not available.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB100

Question Serial No.

1393

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What is the number of health care assistants at present? Will the Hospital Authority continue to recruit additional health care workers in the coming financial year?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The number of health care assistants employed by the Hospital Authority (HA) as at February 2001 was 4 102. HA plans to recruit more health care assistants in 2001-02 to cope with service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters _____
Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____
Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____
17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB101

Question Serial No.

1394

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What are the current ratio of doctors and nurses to patients in different specialty wards? Is there any difference between the ratios for the day shift and night shift? If so, please set out the ratios for both shifts?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The provision of doctors and nurses in specialty wards is not based on standard staffing ratios. It is determined by many factors, including mode of service delivery, patient volume, complexity of patients' conditions, physical setting of the wards, staff mix and skill mix.

To provide round-the-clock service in the specialty wards, doctors are subject to an on-call system while nurses work on a shift pattern. In general, there are more doctors and nurses during the day than at night to cater for the substantially greater patient care activities in hospital wards and other diagnostic and treatment facilities during daytime.

Signature

Name in block letters

 Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

 Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB102

Question Serial No.

1395

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177

Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme :

Health

Controlling Officer :

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary :

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : The Hospital Authority will increase the number of family medicine trainees from 210 to 316 in the coming year. On what basis is the increase worked out? Is it in line with the development in community medical service? Are the family medicine trainees paid salaries and allowances different from other doctors of the same ranks? If so, please provide the details in tabular form.

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Hospital Authority (HA) has taken into consideration the following factors in its planned increase in Family Medicine (FM) trainees in 2001/02 :

- training capacity, including the availability of accredited FM trainers;
- the increase in service demand and pressure areas in frontline clinical units;
- improved and new services to be commissioned; and
- the strategic direction to strengthen primary care and community-based health care services.

Promoting FM practice is in line with the development of knowledge-based, holistic and community-focused health care services in Hong Kong. The

salary and allowance of doctors undergoing FM training are the same as other HA doctors of the same rank.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB103

Question Serial No.

1396

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

Despite the fact that long working hours of doctors is now a problem in all public hospitals, there is only an estimated increase of 64 doctors for the coming year. What are the criteria for increasing the number of doctors? Has the ratio of doctors to patients been taken into account?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Hospital Authority (HA) plans to recruit 270 new doctors in 2001-02. Taking into account natural staff wastage, it is estimated that there will be a net increase of 170 doctors in HA to cope with increase in service demand and workload arising from commissioning new services, and to relieve work pressure areas.

In determining the increase to the number of doctors required, HA has taken into account the overall manpower requirement to provide comprehensive health care services to meet the needs of the community, and to address the problem of doctors' long work hours in pressure areas.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB104

Question Serial No.

1404

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : For elective surgery, which specialty services and type of illness have the longest and shortest waiting time?

Asked by : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply :

As at December 2000, the longest waiting time for elective surgery was in the clinical specialty of Ophthalmology with an average waiting time of 47 weeks. The waiting time for elective gynaecological operation, at about 7 weeks, was the shortest. In all specialties, patients with urgent clinical conditions are treated with priority.

Information on waiting time for elective surgery by type of illness is not readily available.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

19 March 2001

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB106

Question Serial No.

1406

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : Please provide information on the number, pay scales and average salaries of Consultants, senior doctors, junior doctors, allied health staff, nurses and administrative and managerial staff?

Asked by : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : The requested information is provided below : -

Staff Group (Pay Range)	Staff No. (As at 31.3.01)	Average Monthly Mid-point Salary (\$)
Consultant (\$98,250 - \$149,600)	498	123,889
Senior doctors * (\$62,780 - \$88,115)	877	81,900
Junior doctors § (\$35,285 - \$79,230)	2 513	56,220
Allied Health staff - professionals (\$11,820 - \$104,250) - managers (\$50,190 - \$88,115)	4 434 10	33,307 72,155

Nurses		
- qualified nurses (\$ 11,115 - \$73,815)	18 178	27,033
- trainees (\$ 8,820 - \$13,670)	1 519	11,347
- nursing managers (\$47,970 - \$124,335)	34	71,197
Management/ administrative staff (\$17,100 - \$164,200)	499	54,635

* Include Senior Medical Officers and Associate Consultants.

§ Include Medical Officers and Residents.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

19 March 2001

Signature

Name in block letters

 Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

 Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

 14 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB108

Question Serial No.

1408

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What is the additional number of personal care and ward supporting staff to be employed and what is their average salary?

Asked by : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply : The Hospital Authority plans to employ about 1 600 general workers or care assistants in 2001-02 to provide support to clinical professionals at hospital wards, clinical departments, allied health services departments and outpatient clinics. The average monthly salary of these general workers or care assistants will be within the range of \$6,000 - \$9,000.

Signature

Name in block letters _____
Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____
Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____
17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB109

Question Serial No.

1409

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : Under which specialty do the new beds and day places respectively fall? Please list the number of new beds to be opened in each hospital.

Asked by : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The distribution of new beds and day hospital places to be opened in 2001-02 by hospital and by type is given below.

A. New Beds

Hospital	Care Type					Total
	Acute General	Intensive Care	Convalescent / Rehabilitation	Infirmary	Psychiatry	
Tai Po Hospital					34	34
United Christian Hospital	91					91
Kowloon Hospital Rehabilitation Building				136		136
Tseung Kwan O Hospital	48	4				52
Princess Margaret Hospital Lai King Building			96	160		256
Total beds	139	4	96	296	34	569

B. Day Hospital Places

Hospital	Psychiatric Day Hospital Places
United Christian Hospital	40

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB110

Question Serial No.

1415

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : Please explain how the Enhanced Productivity Programme is carried out in United Christian Hospital and Tseung Kwan O Hospital.

Asked by : Hon Fred LI Wah-ming

Reply : In 2001-02, the United Christian Hospital and Tseung Kwan O Hospital will carry out the following initiatives under the Enhanced Productivity Programme of the Hospital Authority :

- implementing energy conservation projects;
- streamlining food delivery system;
- automating pharmacy service;
- streamlining hospital management functions; and
- re-engineering work process in both clinical and non-clinical areas.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

15 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB111

Question Serial No.

1416

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What is the total number of occasions when the United Christian Hospital had to resort to temporary beds owing to full occupation of hospital beds in 2000? On average, how many temporary beds had to be used every day? What are the respective estimates for the about two figures in 2001? Is there any long-term plan to reduce the use of temporary beds? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon Fred LI Wah-ming

Reply :

In 2000, the daily average of excess beds in the United Christian Hospital (UCH), which had a total bed complement of 1 174, was 44. The number of occasions when excess beds were used in UCH during the year could not be provided as such information is not readily available from the data base of the Hospital Authority. With the planned opening of 91 new beds in UCH in 2001-02 and improved community and ambulatory care, the problem of insufficient hospital beds in UCH will be alleviated to a large extent. The planned opening of 52 new beds in Tseung Kwan O Hospital (TKOH) in 2001-02 would also help relieve demand for hospital services in the Kowloon East Cluster. We expect that the need for excess

beds in UCH will diminish, with the exception of certain peak periods during which excess beds may still be required. The situation will be further improved upon completion of the phase commissioning of the remaining 160 new beds in UCH by 2003-04, and the commissioning of 48 beds in TKOH in 2002-03.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB112

Question Serial No.

1440

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head 186 - Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What specific plans does Transport Department have for provision of special transport facilities and for encouraging installation of ancillary facilities on public transport modes for people with disabilities? What are the estimated expenditures for these?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Kwok-keung

Reply : Rehabus service is provided by the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation (HKSR) with government subvention. Its performance is closely monitored by HKSR and Transport Department. Two new rehabuses have been added in January this year. One more will be put into service this September. The need for additional vehicles to meet passenger demand is assessed annually. Government provides a subvention of \$26 million in 2001-02 for the operation of rebus services which involve running 85 rehabuses for people with disabilities.

Transport Department holds regular meetings with major public transport operators and associations representing people with disabilities to examine further improvement in services and facilities for passengers with disabilities. Public transport operators will absorb the costs arising from the improvement schemes and Transport Department does not make provision for them.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB113

Question Serial No.

1445

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head 186 - Transport Department Subhead(No. & title) :

Programme: (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : People with mobility difficulties usually take an average of 2 to 3 months to reserve for a dial-a-ride Rehabus service. However, Transport Department mentioned in this draft Estimates that the Rehabus service was largely satisfactory. Is the Department aware of the service shortage and does it have any plan to put in more resources to improve the situation?

Asked by: Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : Currently, 18 rehabuses are providing whole day dial-a-ride services, an increase of 4 rehabuses compared to 1999. They are supplemented by 55 rehabuses, after they have finished their scheduled route services in the morning and evening peak hours. The service is further strengthened by 2 more rehabuses to provide dial-a-ride service on Sundays and public holidays.

Passengers with disabilities can book dial-a-ride services up to 6 months in advance. Some passengers book the service quite early in order to secure the service on popular hours/days. We are aware of rejected bookings and user complaints. With a fleet of 18 and other supplementary rehabuses on dial-a-ride service, the passenger trips in 2000 recorded an increase of about 11% compared to 1999. While the performance of the service was considered generally satisfactory,

we are making efforts to bring about further improvements such as operational efficiency and acquisition of additional rehabuses.

Two new rehabuses were added in January 2001 to strengthen scheduled route services. One rebus will be delivered around September 2001 to expand the whole day dial-a-ride service.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB114

Question Serial No.

1453

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head 186 - Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the criteria or forecast that Transport Department adopt when considering to increase the number of rehabuses?

Asked by : Hon Mrs Miriam LAU Kin-yee

Reply : Both Transport Department and the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation (HKSR) monitor the demand for rehabus services. The need to procure additional vehicles is assessed on the basis of the number of dial-a-ride bookings rejected, the number of people on the waiting list for scheduled route service and suggestions from members of HKSR's Users Liaison Group.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB115

Question Serial No.

1454

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head 186 - Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the details of the nine schemes to be coordinated by Transport Department in 2001 to improve access to public transport for people with disabilities?

Asked by : Hon Mrs Miriam LAU Kin-yee

Reply : The nine improvement schemes to be co-ordinated by Transport Department in 2001 are :

- (a) Kowloon Motor Bus Co. Ltd will introduce its Cyber Bus Stop which can announce route information in Cantonese, Putonghau and English to passengers with visual impairment;
- (b) New World First Bus Services Ltd will introduce its Electronic Route Map at its bus stop which can announce the route number and destination of bus routes calling at that stop in Cantonese, Putonghau and English for passengers with visual impairment;
- (c) Kowloon Canton Railway Corporation will carry out a trial public announcement system at train platform to announce the

- route number and destination of the coming light rail vehicle in Cantonese and English for passengers with visual impairment;
- (d) Bus companies will carry out a trial of providing a common pick up and set down point at bus termini for passengers using wheelchairs;
 - (e) Green minibus operators will designate a priority seat for passengers with a disability near the entrance;
 - (f) Kowloon Canton Railway Corporation will provide portable ramp to bridge the gap between the station platform and train for wheelchair users at Mong Kok, Kowloon Tong and University Stations;
 - (g) Kowloon Canton Railway Corporation will provide Braille compartment number plate near the train door so that passengers with visual impairment can tell the train operator where they are in case they require help;
 - (h) Long Win Bus Co. will retrofit lap belt at the wheelchair parking space onboard its accessible buses; and
 - (i) Transport Department plans to require taxi owners to add a switch to control the roof-top light so that low vision people know that a taxi is out-of-service, during night time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB116

Question Serial No.

1455

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head 186 - Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the details of the seven schemes to improve access to public transport for people with disabilities in last year? What are the two additional scheme in 2001-02?

There is increasing demand for rebus but only one additional rebus will be procured in next year. Will this be able to meet the demand?

Asked by : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

Reply : The 7 schemes co-ordinated by TD in 2000 were :

- (a) issue of a revised version of "A Guide to Public Transport Services in Hong Kong for People with Disabilities";
- (b) a trial scheme on new audible traffic signal product for visually impaired people;
- (c) installation of a lap belt for wheelchair passengers inside individual bus compartment;
- (d) posting of stickers at bus stops to remind passengers to let people with disabilities board the bus first;

- (e) introduction of Braille and tactile taxi registration mark plates on new liquefied petroleum gas taxis so that passengers with visual impairment can know the registration number;
- (f) improvement on visibility of vertical handrails, fare charts and fare boxes inside tram compartments and installation of buzzers at the rear boarding gates of trams for passengers with visual impairment; and
- (g) introduction of talking taxi meters (welcome and thank you messages, taxi registration mark and fare) for passengers with visual impairment.

The 9 schemes to be co-ordinated by TD in 2001 are:

- (a) KMB will introduce its Cyber Bus Stop (route information) for passengers with visual impairment;
- (b) New World First Bus Services Ltd will introduce its Electronic Route Map at its bus stop (route number and destination of buses calling at that stop) for passengers with visual impairment;
- (c) Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (KCRC) will carry out a trial of making public announcement at platform (route number and destination of coming light rail vehicle) for passengers with visual impairment;
- (d) Bus companies will carry out a trial of providing a common pick up and set down point at bus terminus for passengers using wheelchairs;
- (e) Green minibus operators will designate a priority seat for passenger with a disability near entrance with a label;
- (f) KCRC will provide portable ramp to bridge the gap between station platform and train for wheelchair users;
- (g) KCRC will provide a Braille compartment number plate near the train door to enable passengers with visual impairment to tell the train operator where they are;
- (h) Long Win Bus Co. Ltd. will retrofit lap belt at wheelchair parking space on board its accessible buses; and
- (i) TD plans to require taxi owners to add a switch to control the roof-top light so that low vision people can know that a taxi is out-of-service, during night time.

Two rehabuses have just been added in January 2001 to strengthen scheduled route services and to provide off-peak dial-a-ride service. One more rebus will be added to dial-a-ride service around September this year. TD monitors the demand for rebus service through regular meetings with Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation and feedback from Users' Liaison Group meeting of Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB117

Question Serial No.

1457

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head 186 - Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In the draft Estimates, the Government states that there were 7 schemes co-ordinated by the Transport Department (TD) to improve access to public transport for people with disabilities in 2000, and the estimated numbers of such schemes is 9 in 2001. What are the details of these schemes?

Is there any financial provision in 2001-02 for conducting studies assessing the public transport needs of people with disabilities?

Asked by : Hon Cyn HO Sau-lan

Reply : The 7 schemes co-ordinated by TD in 2000 were :

- (a) issue of a revised version of "A Guide to Public Transport Services in Hong Kong for People with Disabilities";
- (b) a trial scheme on new audible traffic signal product for visually impaired people;
- (c) installation of a lap belt for wheelchair passengers inside individual bus compartment;

- (d) posting of stickers at bus stops to remind passengers to let people with disabilities board the bus first;
- (e) introduction of Braille and tactile taxi registration mark plates on new liquefied petroleum gas taxis so that passengers with visual impairment can know the registration number;
- (f) improvement on visibility of vertical handrails, fare charts and fare boxes inside tram compartments and installation of buzzers at the rear boarding gates of trams for passengers with visual impairment; and
- (g) introduction of talking taxi meters (welcome and thank you messages, taxi registration mark and fare) for passengers with visual impairment.

The 9 schemes to be co-ordinated by TD in 2001 are :

- (a) KMB will introduce its Cyber Bus Stop (route information) for passengers with visual impairment;
- (b) New World First Bus Services Ltd will introduce its Electronic Route Map at its bus stop (route number and destination of buses calling at that stop) for passengers with visual impairment;
- (c) Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (KCRC) will carry out a trial of making public announcement at platform (route number and destination of coming light rail vehicle) for passengers with visual impairment;
- (d) Bus companies will carry out a trial of providing a common pick up and set down point at bus terminus for passengers using wheelchairs;
- (e) Green minibus operators will designate a priority seat for passenger with a disability near entrance with a label;
- (f) KCRC will provide portable ramp to bridge the gap between station platform and train for wheelchair users;
- (g) KCRC will provide a Braille compartment number plate near the train door to enable passengers with visual impairment to tell the train operator where they are in case of need ;
- (h) Long Win Bus Co. Ltd. will retrofit lap belt at the wheelchair parking space on board its low floor accessible buses; and

- (i) TD plans to require taxi owners to add a switch to control the roof-top light so that low vision people can know that a taxi is out-of-service, during night time.

TD will conduct the Travel Characteristics Survey between late 2001 and mid 2003 to collect information on travel characteristics including people with disabilities. Upon availability of travel data, TD will assess the needs for conducting a study on public transport needs of people with disabilities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB118

Question Serial No.

0802

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the matters requiring special attention in 2001-02 about providing Programme Assistants in youth welfare facilities by recruiting unemployed youth to enhance their employability, how many such post will be created? What is the average salary and period of employment?

Asked by : Hon Henry WU King-cheong

Reply : In 2001-02, 460 Programme Assistant jobs will be created for unemployed youth, of which 394 will be provided in the non-government organisations while 66 will be for the Social Welfare Department. The total provision for the above jobs is \$29.7m. The Programme Assistant job is remunerated at \$5,000/month plus Mandatory Provident Fund contribution and other statutory provision for a contract of one year, subject to renewal.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB119

Question Serial No.

0803

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The provision for young people will be increased by a mere 0.7% (\$7.6 m). How can such amount cover all the expenditure of increasing the number of community support service scheme team, strengthening integrated teams to enhance outreach service, implementing the Understanding the Adolescent Project in 40 secondary schools, providing for additional programme expenses for local youth activities and providing Programme Assistants in various facilities for the youths?

Asked by : Hon Henry WU King-cheong

Reply : The Administration has spent more on the Young People Programme in 2000-01 as shown in the 2000-01 Revised Estimate. In the 2001-02 Estimate, the increase of \$7.6m or 0.7% over the 2000-01 Revised Estimate is in fact the net result of service re-engineering and implementation of new policy initiatives.

Under the subvented sector, the increase of \$11.5m in the 2001-02 Estimate is the net result of additional provision for

new service initiatives and the phasing out of the some one-off expenditure in 2000-01. In 2001-02, the new initiatives amount to \$50.4m, made up of :

	<u>Amount</u> \$ m
• Full year effect of projects implemented in 2000-01	11.2
• 4 new SSW posts	1.3
• Implementation of Understanding the Adolescent Project in 40 secondary schools	2.0
• Expanding 8 ITs to provide services for young night drifters	9.5
• Expanding 1 IT to include Community Support Services Scheme	1.4
• Employment of Programme Assistants in youth services	23.7
• Additional provision for various services	1.3
	<u>50.4</u>

The above is partly offset by the following reductions, as compared to the 2000-01 Revised Estimate :

	<u>Amount</u> \$ m
• Adjustment for the closure of certain service units under the Fundamental Expenditure Review (FER) and the FER effects	18.0
• Tide-over grant to maintain the salaries of 82 staff from 16 NGOs in need of job placement arising from FER is only required in 2000-01	5.0
• Deflation adjustment for 2001-02 provision for other charges, rent and rates	6.5
• Adjustment for the part year effect due to the lapsing of 23 SSW teams in 2001-02	3.0
• Adjustment made in the revised apportionment of SWD's administrative cost to this Programme	3.4
• Other minor adjustments for various services	3.0
	<u>38.9</u>

For the government sector of this programme, the 2001-02 Estimate includes additional provision of \$3.1m for the hiring of Programme Assistants to

support youth services, departmental expenses in administering the “Understanding the Adolescent Project” in secondary schools and additional programme expenses for the Local Committees on Services for Young People. Despite this, the 2001-02 estimate shows a net reduction of \$3.9m. This is due to the transfer of \$4.6m of the support cost of voluntary services from this programme to other programmes and the reduction of \$2.4m in the apportionment of Social Welfare Department’s administrative cost to this programme after reviewing the costing for 2001-02.

Overall, there is a net increase of \$7.6m (i.e. \$11.5m - \$3.9m) in the 2001-02 Estimate over the 2000-01 Revised Estimate. In addition, Financial Secretary has earmarked \$84m in the draft Estimates, rising to about \$180m by 2003-04, to launch a comprehensive programme of support services for youth at risk.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB120

Question Serial No.

0804

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : There will be a net increase of only two posts in 2001-02, yet the services to be provided or strengthened are many. Will this lead to a drastic increase of workload to existing staff or problems like manpower shortage or poorer service quality?

Asked by : Hon Henry WU King-cheong

Reply : The two additional posts in Social Welfare Department reflected in the Controlling Officer's Report i.e. one Assistant Social Work Officer and one Clerical Assistant post, are meant to provide central support for the implementation of the Understanding the Adolescent Project. The other new policy initiatives, including extending integrated teams for services for young night drifters and Community Support Services Scheme services are to be implemented by non-government organisations by receiving additional subvention. However, with the additional initiatives announced by the Financial Secretary in his 2001-02 Budget Speech to strengthen support for youth at risk, the Department will need additional staff. Accordingly, a total of 18 posts with an

annual provision of \$7m has been earmarked to strengthen Social Welfare Department's district youth offices.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB121

Question Serial No.

0805

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001-02, the Social Welfare Department will regrade the teaching staff in correctional homes to enhance the educational service for young people staying in the homes. What is the number of teaching staff working in these correctional homes? What grade do they belong to and in what ways is the grade different from that of the teaching staff of ordinary schools? What is the teacher-student ratio in such homes and whether this ratio is different from that of an ordinary school?

Asked by : Hon Henry WU King-cheong

Reply : Currently there is a total of 42 teaching staff (1 Principal Assistant Master, 4 Senior Assistant Master, 5 Assistant Master, 16 Certificated Master and 16 Workshop Instructor) for Social Welfare Department's correctional homes. Their posts were created with reference to the ranking suggested in the "Code of Aid for Special Schools" of the Education Department, and taking into consideration operational needs of the correctional homes.

Making reference to the recommendation of the Management Services Agency in relation to the ranking of the staff and the adjustment of capacity of homes, and the "Code of Aid for Special Schools", the revised

teaching establishment for the correctional homes to be implemented in the 2001-02 school year includes 1 Senior Education Officer post, 1 Education Officer post, 4 Assistant Education Officer posts , 2 Senior Assistant Master posts, 6 Assistant Master posts, 10 Certificated Master posts and 12 Workshop Instructor posts.

The teacher to pupil ratio at 1:15 is in compliance with the “Code of Aid for Special Schools”.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB122

Question Serial No.

0806

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of child care places, which include those provided by small group homes, early education and training centres, integrated programmes in child care centres, occasional child care service, special child care centres, and special provision for autistic children in special child care centres remain unchanged in 2000-01 (Plan). Some of the above services have not provided for additional places since 1999-2000. Have the services provided fully met the existing demand? If not, why do the number of places provided remain unchanged or be frozen?

Asked by : Hon Henry WU King-cheong

Reply : In the Controlling Officer's Report , there is no expansion of services for disabled children in 2001-02. The Financial Secretary has announced in his 2001 Budget Speech an addition of 360 integrated programme places for disabled children over the next two years (i.e., 2001-02 and 2002-03). There are in the pipeline another 180 pre-school places for disabled children after 2001-

02. These will be implemented upon acquisition of premises. In short, there is a continuous expansion of services to meet the service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB123

Question Serial No.

0807

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : With regard to child protection services, the Administration estimates that the number of supervision cases per worker will increase from 32 in 2000-01 to 35 in 2001-02, indicating that there is an increase in demand on and workload of such services. Why does the Administration have to seek the advice of the Women's Commission on the creation of the 83 posts of child protection worker?

Asked by : Hon Henry WU King-cheong

Reply : In terms of provision of resources, we have obtained 20 additional posts in 2001-02 to cope with the anticipated increase in domestic violence cases. However, whether creation of additional posts is the most effective way to achieve the policy objective has to be further considered. In this respect, the Women's Commission is tasked to keep under review, in the light of women's needs, services delivered within and outside the Government and to identify priority areas for action, and monitor the development of new or improved services. As services for victims of domestic violence, in particular child abuse and battered spouse cases,

are pertaining to the well-being and needs of women, the Women's Commission will be consulted on the deployment of the additional resources.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB124

Question Serial No.

0834

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In recent years, the number of street sleepers has been on the increase and there is a tendency that the age of street sleepers has become younger and younger. Has the Government set aside any provision(s) to offer assistance to this group of people? If yes, what is the amount of provision(s) involved? If no, will the Government consider allocating additional funding to assist these people?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : In 2001-02, an amount of \$11.2m, representing an increase of 10% over that in 2000-01, has been earmarked for services to assist street sleepers through provision of outreaching and counselling service, accommodation assistance in temporary shelters or urban hostels, day relief centres, and referral for other forms of assistance. Besides, the Social Welfare Department, in consultation with three non-government organisations specialising in providing street sleeper service, has worked out a 3-year action plan to address the specific

needs of young street sleepers. This is a package of pro-active assistance including midnight outreaching visits, emergency placement, counselling on social/life skills and interpersonal relationship, advice on employment and arrangement of job placement, long-term housing arrangement, provision of emergency funds, and follow-up support to prevent them from relapsing to street sleeping. An application for funding support of \$8m for this 3-year project will be submitted to the Subventions and Lotteries Fund Advisory Committee for consideration at its meeting on 20 March 2001.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB125

Question Serial No.

0835

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : A package of programmes/projects has been implemented by the Social Welfare Department to help able-bodied Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients and other socially disadvantaged groups to become more self-reliant. These programmes/projects include active employment assistance, special job attachment programme and intensive employment assistance projects. Please state whether these programmes/projects aim at the same target group(s) and whether CSSA recipients are allowed to join more than one programme/project.

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The full implementation of Active Employment Assistance (AEA) Programme, the Special Job Attachment Programme and the Intensive Employment Assistance Fund projects are all part of the Promoting Self-reliance Strategy. They aim at helping able-bodied unemployed, low income earners not working full time, single parents and persons from socially disadvantaged groups to become more self-reliant.

The AEA Programme is applicable to all able-bodied unemployed CSSA recipients without family carer responsibilities and to low income CSSA recipients not working full time. It channels participants towards other programmes appropriate to their needs and circumstances so as to help them to achieve self-reliance.

The Special Job Attachment (SJAP) Programme aims at providing hands-on experience to participants through job attachment opportunities. The target participants are those who have been unemployed for six months or longer and those who are socially disadvantaged, e.g. single parent, ex-prisoners.

Participants of projects of the Intensive Employment Assistance Fund are similar to those of SJAP. The projects aim at helping participants to overcome barriers to work through counseling, training and placement services.

To ensure that as many unemployed CSSA recipients as possible can benefit from these programmes, we would not expect participants to take part in both the Special Job Attachment Programme and the Intensive Employment Assistance Fund Programme.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB126

Question Serial No.

0836

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department has invited three subvented residential care homes to operate on a "Continuum of Care" model as a pilot project. Where are these three homes located? What are the criteria for selecting homes for the project?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : Two of the piloted Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (RCHEs) are in Sha Tin and one in Ho Man Tin. The operators of these three homes have good experience in taking care of elderly residents at a higher level of impairment, and a good understanding of the concept of "Continuum of Care". They are also required to demonstrate their ability to deliver the service at the prescribed standards.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB127

Question Serial No.

0837

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In respect of services for the elderly, the financial provision for the subvented/private sectors will increase by 17% from \$2,673,300,000 in 2000-01 (Revised) to \$3,127,300,000 in 2001-02. Please provide a breakdown of the provisions for the subvented sector and the private sector. Will more services for the elderly be contracted out to the private sector? In what ways will the quality of services provided by the private sector be monitored?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The financial provision for the subvented and private sectors in 2000-01 is illustrated as follows:

	2000-01 (Revised Estimate) \$m
Subvented sector	2,413.0
Private sector	260.3
Total	2,673.3

During 2000-01, the two services with private sector participation are Meal Service and Bought Place Scheme / Enhanced Bought Place Scheme. With the experiences gained in the implementation of home care and meal services, the Department plans to invite

wider private sector participation in 2001-02 through competitive bidding based on quality and cost-effectiveness for the **new** elderly service units, including six new Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (RCHEs) and Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS), with the exception of those new units already allocated or required for service rationalisation purposes. The split of the provision for new elderly services between the private and subvented sectors in 2001-02 can only be determined in the light of the outcome of the competitive bidding exercise. The quality of these services will be governed by respective service specification and contract documents signed between the Social Welfare Department and the service operators. Based on these contracts, the Contract Management Unit of the Department monitors the services on a regular basis to ensure that the service operators fully comply with the specified requirements and service performance standards.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB128

Question Serial No.

0838

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As indicated by the performance measures in respect of services for the elderly, some of the home care cases served in 2000-01 (Estimate) and 2001-02 (Estimate) are served by the private sector. Please provide information on the following:

- (a) The percentage of cases served by the private sector.
- (b) The cost per case served per month decreased from \$840 in 1999-2000 to \$570 in 2000-01, and will further decrease to \$563 in 2001-02. Is the reduction in cost a result of the lower tender price offered by the private sector? If yes, how can the quality of service be maintained? Also how can the Government be assured that the working arrangements for the workers and the wages they get are reasonable? If not, what are the reasons for the reduction in cost?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) There is no private sector participation in the provision of home care service and only one private company is awarded the meal service contract. The number of cases in need of meal service provided by the private caterer is as follows:

	Total no. of cases receiving meal service	No. of cases receiving meal service provided by private caterer	Percentage of meal service provided by private caterer against total cases using meal service
Dec 1999-March 2000	854	0*	0
2000-01	1 746	233	13.3%
2001-02	1 909	236	12.4%

* The private caterer only commenced operation in June 2000.

- (b) The cost per case is calculated by dividing the annual contract sum by cases served. The reduction in cost is a result of an estimated increase in cases to be served.

The quality of home care service is governed by the Service Specification and Service Agreement signed between the Social Welfare Department and the service operators. Based on these, the Contract Management Unit of the Department monitors the home care service on a regular basis to ensure that the service operators fully comply with the specified requirements and service output standards.

In order to do so, it is reasonable to believe that the operators have to pay competitive salaries to retain staff to achieve the prescribed standards.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB129

Question Serial No.

0839

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As regards the proposed merging of the girls' section of Begonia Road Juvenile Home with Ma Tau Wei Girls' Home, please provide information on the following:

- (1) the reasons for the proposed merging;
- (2) the location and overall capacity of the girls' home after the merging;
and
- (3) whether consideration has been given to increase the staff provision. If yes, what is the number of additional staff to be provided? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : (1) In its study to optimize utilisation of the Department's homes, the Management Services Agency has originally recommended the merging of Pui Chi Boys' Home (PCBH) with Ma Tau Wei Girls' Home (MTWGH) after the transfer of the Unit for Disabled in MTWGH to the Wing Lung Bank Golden Jubilee Sheltered Workshop and Hostel. Considering the previous outbreak of violent incidents involving illegal immigrants (IIs) and insufficient space at MTWGH for the arrangement of separate programmes, the Department has decided instead to reprovision the girls' remand section of Begonia

Road Juvenile Home, serving the same gender of residents, to the vacant premises of the Unit for Disabled at MTWGH. This would minimize the potential dangers of mixing too many types of residents in a single institution.

- (2) The capacities of the girls' remand section of Begonia Road Juvenile Home and Ma Tau Wei Girls' Home will remain unchanged after the merging. The total capacity of MTWGH after merging will be 100 i.e. 20 for remand section and 80 for place of refuge.
- (3) The merging will enable greater flexibility in staff deployment. There is no need to increase manpower. Instead a saving of 4 posts (1 Chief Social Work Assistant, 2 Social Work Assistants and 1 Property Attendant) will be achieved.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB130

Question Serial No.

0840

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Concerning the expenditure under subhead 179 – Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, while the approved estimate for 2000-01 is \$15,500m, the revised estimate of about \$13,500m for the same financial year is some \$2,000m less than the approved estimate. Would the Government inform this committee:

- (a) the number of cases which discontinued to receive assistance under the scheme; and
- (b) the reasons for the discontinuation.

Asked by : Hon CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The decrease of \$2,000 million in the revised estimate over the approved estimate for 2000-01 is due to a decrease in applications during the year, a drop in unemployment caseload and effects of the various measures under the Support for Self-reliance Scheme. The required information is provided below:

- (a) In 2000-01 (up to end of February 2001), the total number of CSSA cases closed was 30 455.
- (b) The reasons for closure were :

Reasons	No. of cases
Withdrawal	15 654
Death	8 217
Lost contact	3 954
Income or assets exceeding the prescribed limits	332
Absence from Hong Kong	310
Refusal to join the Active Employment Assistance Programme or community work	55
Other reasons (e.g. non-cooperation or imprisonment of applicant)	1 933
Total	30 455

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB131

Question Serial No.

0858

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Provision under Subhead 179 Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme increases by \$1,006,000,000 over the revised estimate for 2000-01. However, according to the figures published in the February 2001 issue of the "Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics", the number of CSSA cases has already dropped from a record high. On what basis does the Administration project that the CSSA applications will increase next year?

Asked by : Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : The \$1.006Bn increase in CSSA expenditure represents an increase of 7.5% between 2000-01 and 2001-02. This increase is projected on the basis of an expected 5.7% increase in the average number of CSSA cases with authorized payment between 2000-01 and 2001-02. The 5.7% is not based on any precise scientific analysis. It takes into account recent trends in the changes in individual categories of cases with authorized payment. However, more important, CSSA is a non-cash limited

scheme which means that we have to provide financial assistance to all eligible applicants. It is necessary to provide for an increased provision. A 7.5% increase is considered to be prudent.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB132

Question Serial No.

0859

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please provide a breakdown of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases by the number of household members of CSSA recipients and the average monthly CSSA payment granted for the past three years.

Asked by : Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : According to the 1998 and 1999 Studies of CSSA Recipients which are the latest studies we have completed, the estimated number of CSSA cases with authorised payment and the average monthly CSSA payment by number of eligible members are as follows:

<u>Number of eligible members</u>	<u>Estimated number of cases with authorised payment</u>		<u>Estimated average monthly payment per case * (\$)</u>	
	<u>Sep 1998</u>	<u>Nov 1999</u>	<u>Sep 1998</u>	<u>Nov 1999</u>
1	133 900	134 600	3,700	3,750
2	30 200	32 800	6,330	6,250
3	17 200	19 100	8,970	8,390
4	12 000	14 000	11,050	10,080
5 or over	7 300	9 200	14,420	12,560

Note: * The figures on monthly payment are prepared on the assumption that the households do not have income other than CSSA payment, and therefore the payment quoted need not be offset.

Results from the survey conducted in 2000 are not yet available.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB133

Question Serial No.

0860

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of low-income Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases is far less than the number of eligible households. What are the reasons for that? What measures has the Administration taken to strengthen publicity on the eligibility criteria for low-income CSSA applicants? What is the provision earmarked for promoting the CSSA Scheme in the 2001-02 Estimate?

Asked by : Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : The CSSA Scheme (formerly known as the Public Assistance Scheme) has been in place for some three decades to provide cash assistance to bring the income of needy individuals and families, including low-income families, up to a prescribed level to meet their basic and special needs. Eligibility for assistance depends on the family's financial resources and their recognised needs under the Scheme. It is difficult, if not impossible, to estimate the number of low-income families who would be eligible for CSSA but do not make a claim, because of the lack of reliable statistical data on the levels of assets generally held by people in Hong

Kong. It is also possible that some low-income families, which do not have adequate means on their own, are able to receive financial assistance or other form of support from families or friends. As at end of February 2001, the number of CSSA low-income cases was 8 366.

We publicise the CSSA Scheme on an on-going basis and no separate provision is made for this. The publicity aims at informing the public, including low income families, of the application procedures and eligibility criteria, etc. of the Scheme through the following means :

- sending out information pamphlets at various offices of the Social Welfare Department and the District Offices of the Home Affairs Department;
- playing information video tape regularly at the reception area of all social security field units;
- assisting enquirers through the taped messages on the Scheme placed on the Social Welfare Department's interactive 24-hour telephone hotline; and
- Social Welfare Department frontline staff introducing the Scheme to target participants at various events, such as briefings organised by non-government organisations.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB134

Question Serial No.

0884

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please state the financial and staffing resources provided to the subvented sector for rendering counselling services, group activity services, residential services and employment assistance to ex-prisoners, as well as the number of service units involved.

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : There are 14 units including social therapy centres, hostels, employment rehabilitation centres and recreation centres providing direct counselling, group activities, hostel and employment service for ex-prisoners. An allocation of \$35.8m has been earmarked for these services. Apart from the 43 registered social workers at the rank of Assistant Social Work Officer providing after-care services for the ex-prisoners, there are 4 supervisors at the rank of Social Work Officer, 4 social workers at the rank of Social Work Assistant, 20 welfare workers/senior welfare workers and 12 other supporting staff for the above programmes.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB135

Question Serial No.

0885

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please list in detail the funding for, the number of places provided by, the enrolment rates of and the staffing provisions in each of the probation homes, probation hostels, remand homes and places of refuge.

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The allocation, capacities, utilisation and staff establishment of the correctional homes are as follows:

Name of Home	PE	DE/OC	Capacity	Utilisation (04/00- 02/01)	Staff Establishment				
	Allocation 2000-01 \$m				Registered Social Worker and Welfare Worker	Teaching Staff and Workshop Instructor	Clerical Staff	Supporting Staff	Total
A) Approved Institution (Probation Home)									
Shatin Boys' Home	16.7	3.1	100	63.44%	24	18	3	15	60
Fanling Girls' Home	8.3	1.3	30	49.19%	11	3	2	11	27
B) Approved Institution (Probation Hostel)									
Kwun Tong Hostel	6.0	1.0	60	79.9%	14	0	2	5	21
C) Reformatory School									
O Pui Shan Boys' Home	16.0	1.8	80	35.14%	23	12	3	14	52
D) Remand Home									
Begonia Road Juvenile Home	15.3	2.1	70	61.7%	32	2	3	16	53

Name of Home	PE	DE/OC	Capacity	Utilisation (04/00- 02/01)	Staff Establishment				
	Allocation 2000-01 \$m				Registered Social Worker and Welfare Worker	Teaching Staff and Workshop Instructor	Clerical Staff	Supporting Staff	Total
E) Place of Refuge									
Ma Tau Wei Girls' Home (Girls Section)	17.4	2.5	80	71.89%	26	4	3	15	48
Unit for Disabled			10		1	1	0	10	12
Pui Chi Boys' Home	10.8	2.0	40	67.53%	20	1	2	13	36

PE = Personal Emoluments

DE = Departmental Expenses

OC = Other Charges

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB136

Question Serial No.

0886

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of social workers for probation services and the Community Support Service Scheme in 2000-01 (Estimate) are less than that in 2000-01 (Plan), what are the reasons for the reduction?

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The number of social workers for probation services and the community support service scheme shown under the 2000-01 (Plan) in the 2000-01 Estimates were 162 and 7 respectively. The target actually achieved for 2000-01 as shown under the 2000-01 (Estimate) in the 2001-02 Estimates are reduced to 141 and 6 respectively. The reduction of 21 and 1 social workers for these types of services is due to deletion of vacant posts for achieving productivity gain through better utilization of existing manpower resources.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB137

Question Serial No.

0887

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the criteria for determining the rate of unsuccessful reintegration of discharge cases from probation hostels and reformatory schools?

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The successful re-integration rate of the approved institution (probation home) and reformatory school is the percentage of the residents who have satisfactorily completed the training programmes in concerned homes and successfully secured school placement, placement of training courses organised by recognised organisations e.g. Vocational Training Centre or job placement upon discharge. Unsuccessful re-integration will be those discharge cases that fail to meet the above criteria.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB138

Question Serial No.

0890

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please provide details on the following services for the young people:

- (a) Concerning the screening service to identify youth at risk, how many primary and secondary schools will start screening students in 2001-02? How many additional staff will be employed and what is the staffing provision? Under which head of expenditure will the provision be accounted for? What is the provision earmarked for such service? Please provide a breakdown of the expenditure items.
- (b) Concerning the allocation of additional recurrent funding rising to \$70m, over the next three years, to increase the number of integrated social service teams aimed at providing timely counselling to youths identified as at risk, what is the additional provision for 2001-02? What is the estimated number of young people who will seek counselling service?
- (c) Concerning the extra 30 outreach social workers, which districts will they work in?

Asked by :

Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply :

- (a) The Administration will implement the Understanding the Adolescent Project (UAP) in 100 secondary schools in 2001-02. The resources of \$100,000/secondary school will be allocated on a lump sum grant basis to the school social work organisation serving the school. The total provision of \$10m is for programme expenses and the school social work organisations are given the flexibility of using these resources to engage social work staff to deliver the service. Apart from programme expenses to be incurred by the non-government organisations, the Social Welfare Department will be provided with one Assistant Social Work Officer and one Clerical Assistant to provide central support for implementing this new policy initiative. Part of the additional resources for an additional 40 schools (announced at the time of the 2000 Policy Address) have been reflected in the Department's head of expenditure under programme expenses. The new resources announced for additional schools in the Financial Secretary's 2001-02 Budget Speech are accounted for under Head 106 Miscellaneous Services Subhead 251 Additional Commitments. Social Welfare Department will apply for supplementary provision in the course of the year.

The extension of the UAP to primary schools will be on a pilot basis. We expect the pilot to run over five years at a total cost of \$90m. The first year or so will be used to develop the screening tool and the preventive programme and the funds required for this purpose in 2001-02 have been set aside under Head 106 Miscellaneous Services Subhead 251 Additional Commitments. Implementation of this initiative will not have additional manpower implications.

- (b) The cumulative sum of \$70m over a period of three years will be spent in expediting the formation of new integrated teams to provide support services to young people. In 2001-02, an additional allocation of \$30m has been earmarked.

We have yet to work out the details in consultation with non-government organisations involved in youth work on the scope for forming new integrated teams with the new resources.

- (c) The 30 additional social workers will be provided in an extra 10 integrated team to serve districts where there are higher concentration of young night drifters and juvenile crime rates. Taking account of the distribution of the first 8 integrated teams, we will determine the location of these 10 extra teams in consultation with non-government organisations.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB139

Question Serial No.

0891

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please state the additional provision and manpower for implementing the Understanding the Adolescent Project, expanding eight integrated teams, expanding one existing integrated team to operate the Community Support Service Scheme and providing additional programme expenses for Local Committees on Services for Young People.

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : To take forward initiatives announced in the 2000 Policy Address, the Administration will provide \$15.1m for implementing (1) Understanding the Adolescent Project in 40 secondary schools, (2) extending eight existing integrated teams for young night drifters, (3) extending one integrated team for Community Support Services Scheme service for juvenile cautioned under the Police Superintendents' Discretion Scheme and (4) allocating additional programme expenses for the Local Committee on Services for Young People.

A total of 31 additional posts will be created for the work under (2) and (3) as well as for central support under (1). The remaining provision under (1) and (4) are for programme expenses.

In the 2001-02 Budget Speech, additional resources have been allocated for strengthening another ten integrated teams to provide services for young night drifters and two integrated teams to operate the Community Support Services Scheme service for juveniles cautioned under the Police Superintendents' Discretion Scheme as well as extending the Understanding the Adolescent Project to a total 200 secondary schools (including the original 40 schools) over a period of three years. A total annual allocation of \$38.7m will be provided to implement the additional initiatives in full. We estimate that these initiatives will give rise to another 40 new posts.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB140

Question Serial No.

0892

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : With regard to providing Programme Assistants in youth welfare facilities by recruiting unemployed youth, how many service units and youth will be participating in the scheme? What is the average salary for this post?

Asked by : Hon WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In 2001-02, 460 Programme Assistant jobs will be created for unemployed youth, of which 394 will be provided in 230 service units of the non-government organisations whereas 66 will be allocated to 44 service units of the Social Welfare Department. The Programme Assistant job is remunerated at \$5,000/month.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB141

Question Serial No.

0916

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In the coming year, the number of cases to be handled by school social workers will decrease by some 1 000. Why does the average caseload handled per worker still maintain at a high level of 86 to 93? Also, it is expected that the demand for school social worker will be increased when the Secondary School Places Allocation Streams reduced, the problem of school violence worsens and more and more young students exhibit behavioural problems, how come a drop in caseload is estimated in the coming year.

Asked by : Hon SZETO Wah

Reply : Following the endorsed policy of pooling the resources of children and youth centers, outreaching teams and school social work to form new integrated teams, 10 school social worker units together with resources of other outreaching social work teams and children and youth centres will be pooled to form seven new integrated teams in 2001-02. The service activities of the resources pooled will no longer appear under school social work service. The figures are reported under integrated teams on an individual worker

basis. In other words, the reduction in figures under school social work does not imply a reduction in service. On the contrary, we expect services to be provided to young people in need in a more effective and integrated manner.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB143

Question Serial No.

0918

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Except for initiatives directed at young night drifters, what measures will the Government adopt to strengthen counselling work for youths frequenting rave parties and abusing soft drugs?

Asked by : Hon SZETO Wah

Reply : In addition to the provision of Counselling Centres for Psychotropic Substance Abusers, the Against Substance Abuse Schemes and Residential Treatment Services for drug abusers, the core children and youth services, namely children and youth centres, outreaching social work, school social work, integrated teams and Community Support Services Scheme deliver various services in meeting the multifarious needs of young people. Services rendered, among other things, include counselling and guidance programmes with drug prevention message being part and parcel of the programme elements. The Administration will increase resources in 2001-02 to expand 18 integrated teams (\$21.6m) to serve young night drifters, another three integrated teams (\$4m) to provide Community Support Services Scheme service for juveniles cautioned under the Police Superintendents' Discretion Scheme, the implementation of Understanding the Adolescent Project (\$10m) in 100 secondary schools for early identification and

prevention of youth at risk as well as new resources of \$30m to expedite the formation of new integrated teams. All these new initiatives are focusing on the needs of youth, in particular those who are either at risk or rave party goers or soft drug abusers. We need concerted efforts of the Administration, social workers, parents and teachers to create a healthy environment for young people to grow up as responsible adults.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB144

Question Serial No.

0977

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
1. Among the various day child care service units run by the government and the subvented sectors, what is the number and percentage of units that provide extended hours places? What is the enrolment rate of these units?
 2. What is the ratio of nurseries that provide extended hours places to the number of children eligible for the service?
 3. Has consideration been given by the Government to extend the child care services to cover children aged under 12?

Asked by : Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

- Reply :
1. Of the 264 aided child care centres run by the non-government organisations (NGOs), 112 centres, i.e. 42%, are providing extended hours service. Among these centres, 100 extended hours units started service in February 2001. As these centres

are picking up enrolment, the enrolment rate will only be available at a later stage. In January 2001, the average utilisation rate of the 15 extended hours units already in operation was 50%. The relatively low utilisation was due to the limited location of a small number of centres which could not facilitate parents in need in other districts. At present, there is only one government child care centre. It does not operate any extended hours and is scheduled to be phased out in 2001-02.

2. Extended hours service provides assistance to parents who have to work long or irregular hours in looking after their children aged under 6. We do not have the exact number of children who require or who are eligible for the service. However, the provision and distribution of the service is made taking into account characteristics such as concentration of single parent, new arrival and working parent families in a district which may need the service, as well as feedback from parents gathered by child care centres.
3. Currently, subsidised after school care programme is available for children aged 6 to 12 whose parents are unable to provide proper care for them after school hours due to work or other reasons. Starting from September 2000, funding has been made available for the provision of 6 000 after school care places by NGOs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB145

Question Serial No.

0996

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please provide the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) unemployment cases and the expenditure involved in the previous year, as well as the estimated number of cases and expenditure entailed for the coming year.

Asked by : Hon David CHU Yu-lin

Reply : Based on a sample study of CSSA recipients conducted at the end of 1999 which is the latest study we have completed, the estimated number of unemployment cases with authorised payment and the estimated expenditure are :

<u>Nature of case</u>	<u>Estimated number of cases with authorised payment (Nov 1999)</u>	<u>Estimated expenditure</u>
Unemployment	21 600	\$1.4bn

The projected average number of unemployment cases with authorised payment in 2001-02 and the projected CSSA expenditure for this category of cases are 16 600 and \$1.2bn respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB146

Question Serial No.

0997

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001-02, the Social Welfare Department will monitor the effects of the package of direct services intended to help the socially disadvantaged become more self-reliant. How many participants have been offered employment under the Support for Self-reliance Scheme? What is the provision for implementing the Scheme in the next financial year? How many cases will be served?

Asked by : Hon David CHU Yu-lin

Reply : Subsequent to the Review of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, the Social Welfare Department implemented on 1 June 1999 the Support for Self-reliance (SFS) Scheme. As at 28 February 2001, the cumulative number of participants who have secured employment after joining the SFS Scheme is 4 268, out of a cumulative total of 37 112 participants. To further promote self-reliance, a package of direct services was launched in 2000-01. The provision for implementing the scheme in 2001-02 is as follows :

Item	<u>Provision in 2001-02</u>	<u>Cases served</u>
(a) Extension of AEA Programme	\$16.0m	20 800 unemployed cases plus certain low earnings cases not in full-time work (number cannot be accurately projected).

Item	<u>Provision in 2001-02</u>	<u>Cases served</u>
(b) Intensive Employment Assistance Fund	\$12.0m (The total amount in the Fund is \$43m and an additional grant of \$11.3m have been committed. More grants may be made later.)	7 200
(c) Special Job Attachment Programme	\$17.3m	1 000
(d) Extended hours service in child care centres	\$16.7m	1 610
(e) After school care programme	\$21.0m	6 000

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB147

Question Serial No.

0998

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001-02", Social Welfare Department indicates that unemployed youth will be recruited as Programme Assistants in youth welfare facilities. How many young people will be benefited from this programme? What is the estimated expenditure of this programme?

Asked by : Hon David CHU Yu-lin

Reply : In 2001-02, 460 Programme Assistant jobs will be created under the Young People Programme, of which 394 will be provided in the children and youth services of the non-government organisations while 66 will be for the youth and community services of the Social Welfare Department. The total provision for the above posts is \$29.7m. Beyond the Young People Programme, an extra 830 Programme Assistants are funded in 2001-02. They will be deployed in various rehabilitation and elderly service units.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB148

Question Serial No.

1371

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the recruitment of unemployed youth as Programme Assistants in youth facilities, please provide information on the following items:

- (a) the number of Programme Assistants to be recruited;
- (b) the specific duties of Programme Assistants;
- (c) the monthly salary of Programme Assistants; and
- (d) the entry requirement of this post.

Asked by : Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing

Reply :

- (a) In 2001-02, a total of 460 Programme Assistant jobs will be created under the Young People Programme.
- (b) The Programme Assistants are expected to assist the social workers in promoting youth services in the community, organising programmes, collecting service data for studies, manning the study and reading rooms, discharging clerical duties and so on.
- (c) The Programme Assistants will be remunerated at \$5,000/month .

(d) The Programme Assistants are expected to have completed F.3 education and be able to read Chinese and speak fluent Cantonese.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB149

Question Serial No.

1372

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The last year spending exceeded the estimated amount. The revised amount in 2000-01 would be \$2,793.6m, when compared with \$2,702.2m, it indicated an exceeded amount of \$91.4m. Please list the items or programmes that had led to such increase/additional expenditure.

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : For 2000-01, the increase of the Revised Estimate over the Approved Estimate is \$91.4m. This is made up of :

	Amount \$m
Government Sector	
● Increased SWD's support cost for the 2000-01 Revised Estimate due to the previous incorrect cost apportionment made in the 2000-01 Approved Estimate.	50.4
● Reduction in provision due to the phasing out of Wanchai Sheltered Housing for the Elderly	(2.1)
	<u>48.3</u>
Subvented/Private Sectors	
	\$m
● Additional provision for enhanced home and community care	32.0
● Lump sum grant effect for NGOs	23.0
● Additional provision for 6 nursing homes	6.0
● Increased share of SWD's administrative costs	11.0
● Additional provision for various services	2.7
	<u>74.7</u>
● Reduced provision due to slippage of projects for care and attention home	(15.2)
● Reduced provision due to slippage of the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme	(16.4)
	<u>43.1</u>
	<u><u>91.4</u></u>

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB150

Question Serial No.

1373

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

- Question :
- (a) Amongst the 1 153 newly added Care & Attention (C & A) places and 156 new nursing home places, how many of them are the result of in-situ expansion in existing homes or from conversion of existing places? How much expenditure has been incurred?
 - (b) For the 1 730 additional places of the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme, what will be the amount involved? How would the scheme be evaluated in terms of its cost-effectiveness?
 - (c) What additional expenditure would be required for strengthening the Enhanced Home and Community Care Projects?
 - (d) What would be the expenditure required for developing a wider support services for care giver?
 - (e) What is the expenditure required for implementing the time-defined contract employment of Programme

Assistants in day centres in promoting Healthy Ageing?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : (a) Of the 1 153 newly added C&A places, 187 are the result of in-situ expansion and 200 are from conversion from meal to C&A places. All the 156 new nursing home places are provided through in-situ expansion of existing homes. The estimated expenditure for the 1 153 additional C&A places and 156 additional nursing home places is \$81.3m.

(b) The estimated amount in providing 1 730 additional places under Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) is \$72.7m. Since its introduction in 1999, EBPS has proved successful as an increasing number of places in private care homes are achieving standards higher than the statutory minimum.

The cost-effectiveness of EBPS would be evaluated in terms of its enrolment rate and the reduced waiting time for admission to subsidised residential care places for frail elders in the central waiting list.

(c) The Social Welfare Department has spent \$64m in setting up 18 Enhanced Home and Community Care Services teams (EHCCS) in 2000-01 and earmarked another \$140m for strengthening the services in 2001-02 to meet the service demand.

(d) Currently, there are two Carers' Support Centres (CSC) in Hong Kong. The one operated by Social Welfare Department (SWD) in Chai Wan is responsible to serve Hong Kong Island and East Kowloon while the other operated by Caritas-Hong Kong in Cheung Sha Wan is to serve West Kowloon and the New Territories. The

cost of operating one CSC is about \$1.86m. Other service units for the elderly operated by both SWD and non-government organisations also provide care and support services to carers within their programme expenditure. In addition, carers' support service has been included as one of the essential components of the 18 Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) teams set up in each of the District Council districts in March 2001. More carer support service will be provided through the setting up of additional EHCCS teams as the Government has earmarked \$140m to expand this service in districts with high demand in 2001-02.

- (e) With a grant of \$21m from the Jockey Club Charities Trust, the Elderly Commission will launch a 3-year Healthy Ageing Campaign from 2001-02 to 2003-04 to promote physical and psychosocial well-being of the elders and people of all ages. To support the campaign, the Social Welfare Department will provide funding for all social centres for the elderly, multi-service centres for the elderly, support teams for the elderly and carers' support centres to employ a total number of 344 time-defined contract Programme Assistants in the campaign period. The estimated annual expenditure for the employment of these Programme Assistants is \$22.2m.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB151

Question Serial No.

1374

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : (a) It is noted that the average monthly cost of a child protection case has increased from \$1,059 in 2000-01 to \$1,410 in 2001-02. What are the reasons accounting for such an increase?

(b) What resources would be put into strengthening the professional support to children and families facing domestic violence?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : (a) The increase of unit cost from \$1,059 per supervision case per month estimated for 2000-01 to \$1,410 estimated for 2001-02 is due to provision of additional manpower and strengthening of services in handling child abuse and domestic violence cases. Moreover, additional staff to meet increases in caseload in 2000-01 was only provided in the fourth quarter of 2000-01, thus resulting in a lower unit cost.

- (b) In 2001-02, an amount of \$16m is proposed for strengthening professional support to children and families facing domestic violence. Tentatively, this includes setting up of a family crisis support centre to be run by non-government organisations for distressed persons facing marital and family problems and additional manpower provision to the Family and Child Protective Services Units of Social Welfare Department for handling child abuse and domestic violence cases. The priority in providing these services and the number of posts to be created will be subject to the advice of the Women's Commission.

In addition, an amount of \$2.7m is estimated for providing public education and publicity programmes at territory-wide and district level on prevention of child abuse and spouse battering, and organising joint training programmes to enhance multi-disciplinary intervention.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB152

Question Serial No.

1375

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : There will be an increase in caseload in both the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and non-government organisations (NGOs) family casework service. The increase is 595 cases in SWD and 225 cases in non-government organisations. However, there will not be any increase in the number of workers. How will the existing units cope with such an increase?

Asked by : Hon Law Chi-kwong

Reply : The number of 595 and 225 quoted are derived from the difference in the estimated number of "cases served" between 2000-01 and 2001-02 in the government sector and subvented sector respectively. Cases served is an aggregate of the number of active cases carried forward from the preceding year as well as new and re-activated cases received in the current year. In other words, the average number of cases handled per worker at any point of time is much smaller. In fact, the caseload per worker in 2001-02 in the government sector and subvented sector is estimated to be 67 and 66 respectively, with slight improvement over that in 2000-01,

which is 67 and 69 correspondingly. This is achieved with enhanced caseload management implemented in both sectors, and cases are completed and closed more efficiently. With ongoing caseload management, the existing manpower is considered adequate.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB153

Question Serial No.

1376

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the setting up of the Marketing Consultancy Office (MCO) as a regular establishment in the Social Welfare Department, what are the estimated expenditure for, job descriptions and indicators of the MCO?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The estimated annual recurrent expenditure of the Marketing Consultancy Office is \$6m. Part of it will be used for employing 12 staff members including General Manager, Marketing Managers, Job/Business Development Managers, Marketing Officers, Job/Business Development Officers, Occupational Therapists, Executive Assistant, Clerk and Therapist Assistant/Workman.

The Office will use commercial and marketing skills to enhance the productivity of sheltered workshops and advise on marketing issues of sheltered employment services with a primary goal of enhancing employment opportunities for people with disabilities:

- To enhance the marketing orientation of the service operators by promoting marketing strategies among sheltered workshops and supported employment units;
- To devise strategies for promoting and marketing the products and services of the sheltered workshops as well as the working abilities of disabled persons, including developing a consortium, organisation of trade fairs and exhibitions etc.;
- To negotiate with public and commercial sectors for sales orders and to coordinate sheltered workshops and supported employment units in procurement of large job orders;
- To identify job opportunities which are suitable for the disabled and where appropriate to recommend modifications to existing jobs to accommodate the disabled;
- To develop strategies to interface sheltered employment and open employment on enhancing the employment opportunities of people with disabilities;
- To promote self-reliance for people with disabilities by giving advice on setting up small enterprises; and
- To provide advice and consultation to sheltered workshops and supported employment units on productivity and marketing strategies.

It is expected that the Marketing Consultancy Office will bring benefit to over 8 000 people with disabilities and 900 staff engaged in sheltered employment through increase of work orders, expansion of job opportunities and improvement in marketing orientation. In a less tangible way, the office's work will also be reflected in greater public education about the working ability of people with disabilities.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB154

Question Serial No.

1378

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) Will the Government inform the Council of the following regarding the small group homes and residential homes for children :
 - (1) the number of children enrolled;
 - (2) the ratio of social workers and children ;
- (b) The details for expanding the 3 Child Protective Services Units into 5 Family and Child Protective Services Units, such as staffing arrangement and creation of social work and professional staff;
- (c) As to the creation of posts for child protection, would the Administration consult other child protection group besides taking the advice from Women's Commission?

Asked by : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Reply : (a) (1) As at 31.12.2000, there were 860 children enrolled in 113 small group homes with 904

places (i.e. 95%), and 1 437 children in 26 residential homes with 1 716 places (i.e. 84%).

- (2) Regarding the ratio of social workers to children, 1 social worker and 7 houseparents are provided to each set of 3 small group homes with a total of 24 places. For children's homes and homes for boys and girls, taking the case of a home with 60 places as an example, there are 2 social workers and 10 care staff.
- (b) The 3 Child Protective Services Units were expanded into 5 regional Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSU) in April 2000 tasked to serve both the victims of child abuse and battered spouse cases. Many families of child abuse victims also suffer from spouse battering, and children witnessing violence in spouse battering suffer from adverse psychological trauma. The FCPSU has started providing service to child and adult victims of domestic violence in an integrated and co-ordinated manner since April 2000. Currently there are 48 Social Work Officers and 5 Assistant Social Work Officers re-deployed from SWD's family services centres working in the 5 FCPSUs.
- (c) We have obtained additional resources in 2001-02 to strengthen services for victims of domestic violence and to cope with an increase in the number of cases. In doing so, the Administration will take into consideration advice from the various advisory bodies, including the Women's Commission. The Women's Commission is a high-level mechanism tasked to keep under review services delivered within and outside the Government in the light of women's needs and to identify priority areas of action. Services for victims of domestic violence are pertinent to meeting the needs of women. The Women's Commission will be consulted on proposals to strengthen services for victims of

domestic violence including the creation of additional posts.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB155

Question Serial No.

1379

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding family casework, the Government has indicated that a new mode of service delivery may be recommended. Please specify.

Asked by : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has commissioned a consultancy study to review family services. One of the objectives of the review is to improve the service delivery model of existing services so that family needs can be addressed in a more holistic and cost-effective manner at a time of rapid social and economic changes. The consultants will come up with recommendations in mid-2001. This is the new mode of service delivery referred to in family casework.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB156

Question Serial No.

1380

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2001-02, the cost per place per month for the foster care service operated by the government sector is \$8,771, while that by the subvented sector is \$655 higher, amounting to \$9,426.

Please account for the difference.

Asked by : Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun

Reply : The cost figure for the government sector reflects only the provision under the control of the Director of Social Welfare. They do not cover the cost of fringe benefits for civil servants or rent, which are charged to different expenditure heads. In the subvented sector, the cost figure takes into account the net (i.e. after deduction of fees) total provision required for providing foster care service. The two unit cost figures are therefore not directly comparable.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB157

Question Serial No.

1381

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary has pledged to provide an additional 1 000 residential places and 1 380 day service and supported employment places over the next five years. Please specify the details of the above programmes. What is the breakdown of the annual expenditure?

Asked by : Hon LAU Chin-shek

Reply : These additional places over the next 5 years include :

Residential Services

Care & Attention Home for Severely Disabled Persons	250 places
Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons	520 places
Hostel for Moderately Mentally Handicapped Persons	30 places
Long Stay Care Home	<u>200 places</u>
	1 000 places

Day Services

Day Activity Centre	687 places
Sheltered Workshop	120 places
Supported Employment	<u>580 places</u>
	1 387 places

Pre-school Service

Integrated Programme in Child Care Centre	360 places
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The breakdown of the total provision for these places estimated at \$212.4m in terms of additional annual expenditure over the next five years is at the Annex.

Signature	<hr/>
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	<hr/> Director of Social Welfare
Date	<hr/> 17 March 2001

Annex to Q.1381

	<u>2001-02</u>	<u>2002-03</u>	<u>2003-04</u>	<u>2004-05</u>	<u>2005-06</u>
DAC	237	50	50	250	100
HSMH	70	50	50	250	100
HMMH	30	-	-	-	-
C&ASD	50	-	50	100	50
LSCH	200	-	-	-	-
IP	360	-	-	-	-
SE	580	-	-	-	-
SW	120	-	-	-	-
\$m	81.3	21.5	17.9	64.3	27.4

DAC	Day Activity Centre
HSMH	Home for Severely Mentally Handicapped
HMMH	Home for Moderately Mentally Handicapped
C&ASD	Care and Attention Home for Severely Disabled
LSCH	Long Stay Care Home
IP	Integrated Programme
SE	Supported Employment
SW	Sheltered Workshop

Bureau Serial No.

HWB158

Question Serial No.

1382

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary has pledged to allocate an additional \$30m a year to provide continuous community support services for the disabled and their families. Please specify the details, mode of implementation and breakdown of expenditure of the above programme.

Asked by : Hon LAU Chin-shek

Reply : We propose to re-engineer existing community-based services such as the Training and Activity Centres for Ex-mentally Ill Persons, the Community Rehabilitation Network Centres, the Social and Recreational Centres, the Parents Resources Centres, the Home-based Training and Domiciliary Occupational Therapy Service. The funding of \$30m earmarked is to make available additional financial support needed for the re-engineering in order to provide more integrated community services to meet the changing needs and aspirations of the disabled and their families. We will continue to collaborate with the relevant non-government organisations to work out the proposals in detail.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Carrie LAM
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB159

Question Serial No.

1497

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 4 Curative Care

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : How many attendances at general out-patient clinics are made by the elderly aged 65 or above every year? How many attendances do they make on average?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

There were a total of 4 860 000 attendances at general out-patient clinic in 2000. Persons aged 65 and above accounted for about 35% of all medical consultations. The average attendance per year of an elder is ten.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 16 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB160

Question Serial No.

1492

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177

Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme :

Health

Controlling Officer :

Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary :

Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

How much resources and manpower will be allocated for “assessing 1 400 persons aged under 25 to identify for early treatment those suffering from psychotic problems”?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

A financial provision of \$15 million will be allocated for the programme to assess 1 400 persons aged under 25 to identify for early treatment those suffering from psychotic problems. A total of 8 psychiatric doctors, 13 psychiatric nurses and 1 clinical psychologist will be required for the programme.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

16 March 2001

Bureau Serial
No.

HWB161

Question Serial No.

1493

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead(No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What percentage of the total expenditure of the Hospital Authority do drug expenses account for? How much is spent on purchasing psychiatric drugs? What is the additional amount needed for providing 2 500 mental patients with new psychiatric drugs? What are the names of these new drugs? What are the respective costs of the old and new drugs?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The projected drug expenditure for 2001-02 is about \$1,740M, accounting for about 5.9% of HA's gross subvention for the year.

The projected expenditure on psychiatric drugs for 2001-02 is about \$128M, which includes \$50M of additional funding for the provision of new psychiatric drugs, namely, Clozapine, Olanzapine and Risperidone, to about 2 500 psychiatric patients.

The daily cost of treating a patient with new psychiatric drugs ranges from \$39 to \$54, which is about 90 times more expensive than with conventional psychiatric drugs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB162

Question Serial No.

1494

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

- (a) In 2000-01, how many patients are exempted from paying medical charges? What is the age distribution of these patients, and what is the average cost of assessing a waiver case?
- (b) Regarding elderly persons aged 65 or above, what is their average number of inpatient days, attendance at general outpatient and specialist outpatient clinics respectively each year? What is the average annual medical expenditure for each elderly?
- (c) What is the reason for deleting 100 psychiatric beds? In what way will the savings achieved from the deletion of these beds be used instead?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The total number of fee waiver cases during the period April to December 2000 is as follows:

Inpatient	176 000 cases
Outpatient	1 240 000 attendances*

* includes attendance in outpatient clinics and day hospitals, and community nursing services

The Hospital Authority (HA) does not have readily available information on the age distribution of these patients or the average cost of handling a waiver case.

- (b) In 1999, the average number of inpatient days and specialist outpatient attendances for each elderly patient (aged 65 or above) using HA services was 22.3 days and 4.8 attendances respectively. The average medical cost for each elderly patient using HA services (including inpatient and specialist outpatient services) for the year 1999 was around \$57,000 at 1999-2000 price level. HA does not have readily available information on the age distribution of patients attending its general outpatient clinics. The average medical cost for each elderly attending HA's general outpatient clinics is therefore not available.
- (c) The international trend for the provision of care to the mentally ill has shifted from institutional to community based. With improved medication, early rehabilitation and development of community services, the Hospital Authority (HA) has been able to reduce the length of hospitalization for the mentally ill, with the average length of stay in hospital dropping from around 200 days in 1993/94 to 150 days in 1999-2000, reflecting a reduced planning requirement for future psychiatric beds. In the circumstances, HA has initiated plans to rationalize hospital based psychiatric services and to enhance community based services. As part of this plan, 100 beds for the mentally ill (50 each from Kwai Chung Hospital (KCH) and Castle Peak Hospital (CPH)) were deleted in 2000-01. The resources released were used to enhance service delivery at KCH and CPH, including improvement of in-patient psychiatric rehabilitation and increasing psychiatric specialist out-patient attendances by 7%, day hospital attendances by 10%, home visits by community psychiatric nurses by 8% and outreach attendances by community psychiatric teams by 10%.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

19 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB163

Question Serial No.

1495

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What is the reason for merging *Subheads* 977 and 978 to form a new *Subhead* 979 ?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

Prior to 2001-02, purchase of equipment costing over \$100,000 each is charged under *Subhead* 977 and funding of computerisation projects costing over \$100,000 each is covered by *Subhead* 978.

In 2001-02, *Subhead* 977 will be merged with *Subhead* 978 to form a new *Subhead* 979 *Hospital Authority – equipment and information systems (block vote)*, which will cover expenditure on all equipment items and computerisation projects costing over \$100,000 each. Such an arrangement will rationalise the resource management process and will provide greater flexibility to the Hospital Authority in managing resources for the procurement of equipment and development of its information systems.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB164

Question Serial No.

1498

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : As regards the total attendance at accident and emergency departments, please provide a breakdown of the number of cases under each category.

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The Hospital Authority adopts a Triage System to prioritise patients attending Accident & Emergency (A&E) Departments into five categories according to their relative needs for medical treatment. A breakdown of first attendances at A&E Departments in 2000 by triage categories is as follows:

A&E Triage Category	No. of first attendances at A&E Departments	Percentage of total first attendances
I Resuscitation	14 475	0.6%
II Emergency	40 439	1.8%
III Urgent	489 047	21.1%
IV Semi-urgent	1 340 662	57.9%
V Non-urgent	381 191	16.5%
Unclassified	49 382	2.1%
Total	2 315 196	100%

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

14 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB165

Question Serial No.

1499

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As compared with the 1999-2000 figures, the average length of stay of mentally-ill and mentally-handicapped in-patients is substantially shortened. What are the reasons for this? Please also provide a breakdown of the number of discharged mentally-ill patients referred to different rehabilitation services

Asked by : Hon Law Chi Kwong

Reply :

As a provider of psychiatric services, the objective of the Hospital Authority (HA) is to enable patients to return to the community as soon as possible after treatment and rehabilitation. To this end, HA has implemented a number of measures to improve the care of the mentally-ill and mentally handicapped, including the enhancement of inpatient and rehabilitation services, the use of new psychiatric drugs and the development of community psychiatric services. These measures have resulted in a reduction of the average length of stay of the mentally-ill and mentally handicapped patients in hospitals.

Based on their clinical needs, discharged mentally ill and mentally handicapped patients will continue to be treated or followed up in psychiatric day hospitals and psychiatric outpatient clinics, or by community psychiatric teams and community psychiatric nurses. HA also refers discharged patients who require social rehabilitation in the form of residential services to Half Way Houses, Long Stay Care Homes and Hostels operated by Non-Government Organizations to help them reintegrate into society.

During April 2000 to February 2001, 356 discharged mental patients were referred to Half Way Houses, 50 to Long Stay Care Homes and 337 to Old Age Hostels/Care and Attention Homes.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Dr E K Yeoh</u>
Post Title	<u>Secretary for Health & Welfare</u>
Date	<u>17 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB166

Question Serial No.

1500

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO

WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : How many cases do doctors being trained in family medicine handle each day? What is the average number of cases that each doctor handle per day at specialist clinics and general clinics respectively?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

Family Medicine trainees at integrated clinics of the Hospital Authority (HA) handle up to 40 patients per day. Doctors in HA's general outpatient clinics and specialist outpatient clinics attend to about 90 and 28 patients per day respectively.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

17 March 2001

Bureau Serial No.

HWB167

Question Serial No.

1311

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary has announced a pilot programme for the coming three years to help the disabled integrate into the job market. Please give details and breakdown of annual expenditure for this programme.

Asked by : Hon LAU Chin-shek

Reply : The objective of the special job training project is to enhance the employment opportunity of people with disabilities through proactive training, market-driven and placement-tied approach, overcoming job seekers' barriers to learning and work, and encouraging employers to employ people with disabilities. This initiative is targeted to serve 350 people with disabilities each year on a 3-year basis and will cost about \$7.5m a year.

Under the project, each disabled person will receive a 12-month programme comprising 3-4 months of counselling and training and on the job attachment (with a monthly allowance of \$1,250), job trials in open market for 2-3 months with a wage subsidy to the employer of \$3,000 per month. In the

remaining 6 months, continuous support and counselling will be provided to the disabled employee to enable him to retain the job.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB168

Question Serial No.

1312

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary has announced a one-off provision for non-government organisations to create employment opportunities for the disabled. Please give details, mode of implementation and time-table for the scheme.

Asked by : Hon LAU Chin-shek

Reply : The objective of the pilot project on small enterprises is to enhance the self-reliance of people with disabilities by creating job opportunities for them. A capital commitment of \$50m will be provided as seed money to assist non-government organisations to set up small enterprises to provide jobs for people with disabilities.

Under this proposal, selected non-government organisations will enter into an employer-employee relationship with the disabled and undertake business initiatives such as competing for service contracts in the open market, contracting with organisations and corporations to provide tuck shops in schools and hospitals, refreshment kiosks and cafes and engaging in direct production of crafts, printing, desk-top

publishing, laundry, etc. These ventures are expected to operate on a self-financing basis in the long run.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u>
Post Title	<u>Director of Social Welfare</u>
Date	<u>16 March 2001</u>

Bureau Serial No.

HWB169

Question Serial No.

1501

Examination of draft Estimates of Expenditure 2001-02

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

Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 Hospital Authority

Programme : Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : In 2000-01, how much resources were put into the Samaritan Fund by the Hospital Authority? What were the number of cases of subvention for various services and the respective amounts of fund involved?

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The sources of funding for the Samaritan Fund in 2000-01 comprised government contribution and donations from charities, including the Sir Robert Ho Tung Charitable Fund, Li Po Chun Charitable Trust Fund, S.K. Yee Medical Foundation and The Board Management of Chinese Permanent Cemeteries. A breakdown of the financial assistance provided by the Samaritan Fund to cover expenses in various medical items during April 2000 to January 2001 and the number of cases involved are shown below :

Items	No. of cases	Amount HK\$ M
Cardiac pacemakers	188	7.2
Percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty and other consumables for interventional cardiology	537	14.5
Intraocular Lens	287	0.4
Home use equipment, appliances and consumables	498	1.1
Drugs	27	1.2
Gamma knife surgeries in private hospital	27	2.9
Cost for harvesting bone marrow in foreign countries	4	0.6
Myoelectric prosthesis/ custom-made prosthesis/appliances for prosthetic and orthotic services, physiotherapy and occupational therapy services	201	1.6
Total no. of cases and related expenditure	1 769	29.5

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

17 March 2001

