

**Replies to written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03**

**Bureau Secretary / Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare
Session No. : 17 File name : HWB-e1.doc**

| Reply Serial No. | Question Serial No. | Name of Member | Head | Programme |
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| HWB001 | 0009 | HO Sau-lan, Cyd | 149 | Health, Welfare, Women's Interests |
| HWB002 | 0043 | CHOY So-yuk | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB003 | 0040 | CHAN Kwok-keung | 149 | Health |
| HWB004 | 0041 | CHAN Kwok-keung | 149 | Health |
| HWB005 | 0079 | LEUNG Fu-wah | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB006 | 0109 | MAK Kwok-fung, Michael | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB007 | 0110 | MAK Kwok-fung, Michael | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB008 | 0111 | MAK Kwok-fung, Michael | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
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| HWB011 | 0074 | MA Fung-kwok | 37 | Curative Care |
| HWB012 | 0080 | LAU Wai-hing, Emily | 170 | Young People |
| HWB013 | 0085 | CHAN Bernard | 170 | Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services |
| HWB014 | 0086 | CHAN Bernard | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB015 | 0082 | LAU Wai-hing, Emily | 186 | Transport Services for People with Disabilities |
| HWB016 | 0143 | WONG Sing-chi | 149 | Women's Interests |
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| HWB019 | 0118 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Social Security |
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| HWB022 | 0121 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services |
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| HWB024 | 0249 | YEUNG Sum | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB025 | 0124 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Social Security |

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| HWB027 | 0141 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Services for Offenders |
| HWB028 | 0142 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services |
| HWB029 | 0168 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB030 | 0169 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services |
| HWB031 | 0170 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | All |
| HWB032 | 0180 | LAU Wai-hing, Emily | 170 | Services for Offenders |
| HWB033 | 0171 | CHAN Yuen-han | 186 | Transport Services for People with Disabilities |
| HWB034 | 0145 | LAW Chi-kwong | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB035 | 0146 | LAW Chi-kwong | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
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| HWB042 | 0153 | LAW Chi-kwong | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
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| HWB047 | 0204 | MAK Kwok-fung, Michael | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
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| HWB051 | 0251 | YEUNG Sum | 170 | Services for Elders |
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| HWB053 | 0253 | YEUNG Sum | 170 | Services for Elders |

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| HWB056 | 0330 | TANG Siu-tong | 37 | Curative Care |
| HWB057 | 0332 | TANG Siu-tong | 37 | Curative Care |
| HWB058 | 0272 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Services for Offenders |
| HWB059 | 0278 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB060 | 0279 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB061 | 0280 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB062 | 0372 | FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB063 | 0375 | FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick | 170 | Young People |
| HWB064 | 0326 | MAK Kwok-fung, Michael | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB065 | 0331 | TANG Siu-tong | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB066 | 0405 | LI Fung-ying | 170 | Social Security |
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| HWB068 | 0434 | LI Fung-ying | 170 | All |
| HWB069 | 0435 | LI Fung-ying | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB070 | 0447 | LAU Wai-hing, Emily | 170 | Young People |
| HWB071 | 0448 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Services for Offenders |
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| HWB073 | 0454 | FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB074 | 0488 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Young People |
| HWB075 | 0489 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Young People |
| HWB076 | 0490 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Young People |
| HWB077 | 0491 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Young People |
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| HWB079 | 0493 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Young People |
| HWB080 | 0455 | FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick | 186 | Transport Services for People with Disabilities |
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| HWB090 | 0555 | WONG Sing-chi | 170 | Services for Offenders |
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| HWB098 | 0629 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB099 | 0630 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB100 | 0631 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB101 | 0632 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB102 | 0633 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB103 | 0634 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB104 | 0722 | LAU Wai-hing, Emily | 37 | Statutory Functions |
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| HWB106 | 0724 | LAU Wai-hing, Emily | 37 | Curative Care |
| HWB107 | 0726 | YEUNG Sum | 37 | |
| HWB108 | 0727 | YEUNG Sum | 37 | Statutory Functions, Disease Prevention, Curative Care, Medical and Dental Treatment for Civil Servants |
| HWB109 | 0729 | YEUNG Sum | 37 | Disease Prevention |
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| HWB112 | 0732 | YEUNG Sum | 37 | Disease Prevention |
| HWB113 | 0733 | YEUNG Sum | 37 | Health Promotion |
| HWB114 | 0734 | YEUNG Sum | 37 | Curative Care |
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| HWB124 | 0864 | SZETO Wah | 37 | Health Promotion |
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| HWB130 | 0955 | CHU Yu-lin, David | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB131 | 0956 | CHU Yu-lin, David | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB132 | 0957 | CHU Yu-lin, David | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB133 | 0958 | CHU Yu-lin, David | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB134 | 0959 | CHU Yu-lin, David | 170 | Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services |
| HWB135 | 0960 | CHU Yu-lin, David | 170 | Medical and Dental Treatment for Civil Servants |
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| HWB137 | 0970 | MAK Kwok-fung, Michael | 170 | Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services |
| HWB138 | 0986 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB139 | 0987 | LAW Chi-kwong | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB140 | 1015 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | All |
| HWB141 | 1016 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | All |
| HWB142 | 1017 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB143 | 1051 | LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB144 | 1052 | LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |
| HWB145 | 1069 | CHAN Yuen-han | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB146 | 0984 | CHAN Yuen-han | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB147 | 1045 | LAW Chi-kwong | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
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| HWB158 | 1218 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB159 | 1219 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB160 | 1291 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB161 | 1292 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB162 | 1293 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Social Security |
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| HWB164 | 1303 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
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| HWB166 | 1305 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB167 | 1313 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB168 | 1314 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB169 | 1315 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB170 | 1316 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Services for Elders |
| HWB171 | 1327 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB172 | 1328 | TAM Yiu-chung | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB173 | 1375 | LEE Cheuk-yan | 170 | Social Security |
| HWB174 | 1096 | MAK Kwok-fung, Michael | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB175 | 1180 | LI Wah-ming, Fred | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB176 | 1181 | LI Wah-ming, Fred | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
| HWB177 | 1212 | CHAN Yuen-han | 177 | Subvention: Hospital Authority |
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| Reply Serial No. | Question Serial No. | Name of Member | Head | Programme |
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| HWB189 | 1349 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Personnel Management of Civil Servants Working in Hospital Authority |
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| HWB191 | 1335 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Disease Prevention |
| HWB192 | 1329 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Disease Prevention |
| HWB193 | 1104 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Statutory Functions |
| HWB194 | 1309 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Health Promotion |
| HWB195 | 1265 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Curative Care |
| HWB196 | 1251 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Curative Care |
| HWB197 | 1211 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Disease Prevention |
| HWB198 | 1210 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Statutory Functions |
| HWB199 | 1178 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Disease Prevention |
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| HWB201 | 1132 | CHAN Yuen-han | 37 | Statutory Functions |
| HWB202 | 1011 | LAU Kin-ye, Miriam | 186 | Transport Services for People with Disabilities |
| HWB203 | 1384 | LEUNG Yiu-chung | 170 | Family and Child Welfare |

Reply Serial No.

HWB001

Question Serial No.

0009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 149 - Government Secretariat : Health and Welfare Bureau
37 - Department of Health
170 - Social Welfare Department
177 - Subventions : Non-Departmental Public Bodies
(Subhead 514, 539, 899, 940 and 979)
186(05) - Transport Department

Programme : (1) Social Welfare (2) Health (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

Regarding consultancy studies on the above three programme areas for policy making and assessment commissioned by your bureau and departments under your bureau,

(1) please provide the following details of the consultancy studies for which financial provision have been allocated in 2001-02:

| Names of consultants (if available) | Contents of studies | Consultancy fees | Progress and follow-up action (in plan/in progress/ finished) | Government's follow-up action (if available) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|--|
| | | | | |

(2) will there be any financial provision allocated for commissioning consultancy studies in 2002-03? If yes, please provide with the following details:

| Names of consultants (if available) | Contents of studies | Consultancy fees | Status of consultancy studies (in plan/ in progress/ finished) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| | | | |

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

The information required is provided below :

(1) Provision in 2001-02

| Head | Names of consultants (if available) | Contents of studies | Consultancy fees | Progress and follow-up action (in plan/ in progress/ finished) | Government's follow-up action (if available) |
|------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------|--|---|
| 149 | MDR Technology Ltd | Opinion survey on financing for health care services in the public sector | \$130,000 | Finished | - |
| 149 | MDR Technology Ltd | Consultancy study on fees and charges : Phase II Survey | \$400,000 | Finished | The data have been used for construction of econometric model for assessing the impact of fees revision. |
| 149 | C K LO & S LAM Ltd | Consultancy services for public consultation on the proposed legislative amendments to the smoking legislation | \$454,000 | Finished | - |
| 149 | University of Hong Kong | Consultancy study on the review of day care centres, multi-service centres and social centres for the elderly and development of integrated care service for the elderly | \$317,800 | Finished | In light of the recommendations of this study, we have mapped out new strategies to provide comprehensive and integrated community care facilities and services for elders. We have launched a number of projects in integrated service mode starting in 2001-02. |
| 149 | MDR Technology Ltd | Survey on issues about financial assistance to older persons | \$260,000 | Finished | To consider a sustainable safety net to provide financial assistance to needy elders. |
| 149 | University of Hong Kong | Research study on the cause of elderly suicide in Hong Kong | \$150,000 | Finished | To improve data collection and analysis of elderly suicide and continue efforts in the prevention of elderly suicide in the light of the findings and recommendations. |

| Head | Names of consultants (if available) | Contents of studies | Consultancy fees | Progress and follow-up action (in plan/ in progress/ finished) | Government's follow-up action (if available) |
|------|--|--|------------------|--|---|
| 149 | University of Hong Kong | Research of overseas experience in developing reverse mortgage for retirement protection | \$30,000 | In progress | - |
| 149 | Hong Kong Council of Social Service | Survey on learning needs and preference of members of multi-service centres and social centres for the elderly | \$110,000 | Finished | Findings being considered. |
| 149 | WHW Performance Management Consulting Inc. | Consultancy on implementation of a planning process for welfare services in Hong Kong | \$140,000 | In progress | In progress |
| 149 | Mercado Solutions Associates Ltd | Survey on the extent of satisfaction of women in Hong Kong in respect of their current state of affairs | \$99,000 | Finished | The findings of the survey were publicised on 8 March 2002. The Women's Commission will study in more depth the findings of the survey, and follow up action would be initiated by the Commission as necessary. |
| 149 | Mercado Solutions Associates Ltd | Survey to assess public perception of gender roles | \$63,000 | In progress | We shall consider necessary follow up actions when findings are available. |
| 170 | IBM China/Hong Kong Limited | Consultancy study on risk management on social security schemes | \$2.99M | Finished | Consider adopting a risk management approach in the administration of social security schemes based on the recommendations of the study. |
| 170 | MDR Technology Ltd | Survey on older persons living in residential care homes | \$156,600 | Finished | The survey is to update the care profile of older persons in Hong Kong. The first study was conducted in 1997. |

| Head | Names of consultants (if available) | Contents of studies | Consultancy fees | Progress and follow-up action (in plan/ in progress/ finished) | Government's follow-up action (if available) |
|------|--|--|------------------|--|--|
| 37 | Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, the University of Sydney | To review the competency of Department of Health (DH) and develop capacity building strategies to meet its expanded role in health promotion | \$77,000 | Finished | DH will make reference to the findings and recommendations of the review in developing capacity building programmes in health promotion. |

(2) Provision in 2002-03

| Head | Names of consultants (if available) | Contents of studies | Consultancy fees | Status of consultancy studies (in plan /in progress/ finished) |
|------|--|---|------------------|--|
| 149 | WHW Performance Management Consulting Inc. | Consultancy on implementation of a planning process for welfare services in Hong Kong | \$210,000 | In progress |
| 149 | University of Hong Kong | Research of overseas experience in developing reverse mortgage for retirement protection | \$30,000 | In progress |
| 149 | Open University of Hong Kong | Research of overseas experience in providing continuing education for older persons | \$40,000 | In progress |
| 149 | Mercado Solutions Associates Ltd | Survey to assess public perception of gender roles | \$378,000 | In progress |
| 149 | ACNielsen (China) Ltd | Survey to gather information on the extent and the level of positions taken up by women in the private sector | \$400,000 | In progress |

| Head | Names of consultants (if available) | Contents of studies | Consultancy fees | Status of consultancy studies (in plan /in progress/ finished) |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------|--|
| 37 | — | Feasibility study on establishing an accreditation system for hospitals and other medical institutions in Hong Kong | \$205,000 (Estimate) | In plan |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB002

Question Serial No.

0043

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 is the expenditure for providing assistance to victims of sexual violence and domestic violence during the year 2002-03? What kind of services will be provided? What is the difference in the expenditure incurred when compared to that of 2001-02?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply : A three-pronged approach is adopted to strengthen families and tackle family problems. Apart from a variety of preventive and supportive services, including a network of 65 Family Services Centres over the territory, the services that cater specifically for victims of sexual and domestic violence are as follows:

1. Family Crisis Support Centre - a 24-hour time-out facility for people under extreme stress or facing crisis.
2. Refuge Centres for Women - providing temporary accommodation with treatment programmes for women and their children.
3. Family and Child Protective Services Units - providing services including reaching-out to/treatment of victims of child abuse/spouse battering as well as batterers.
4. Services of clinical psychologists - providing psychological services to batterers and victims of sexual/domestic violence.
5. Training of social workers and related professionals involved in helping victims of child abuse, domestic violence and elder abuse - organisation of local courses and training package by overseas experts.

The total expenditure of the services listed above is \$74.6m and \$87.1m for 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively. Apart from the government-funded services, projects such as outreaching service for battered women, prevention of elder abuse and the Crisis Centre Against Sexual Violence have been launched with funding support from the Lotteries Fund and the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

Question Serial No.

0040

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

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

Programme : (2) Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

Please provide the financial provision with a breakdown of expenditures for overseeing the introduction of Chinese medicine out-patient services in selected clinics.

Asked by : Hon. Chan Kwok-keung

Reply :

Chinese medicine out-patient services will be provided by the Hospital Authority (HA) in selected clinics. Health and Welfare Bureau (HWB) will oversee the HA in the introduction of such services. No additional staffing resources are required of the HWB.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB004

Question Serial No.

0041

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

Programme : 2 (Health)

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What are the amounts of salary expenditure and manpower resources required for overseeing the development of proposals for transferring the general out-patient clinics from the Department of Health to the Hospital Authority?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kwok-keung

Reply : Through existing manpower and resources, the Health & Welfare Bureau has convened an inter-departmental working group to work out an implementation plan for the transfer of the general out-patient service from the Department of Health to the Hospital Authority, as well as to monitor the plan's implementation. There is no envisaged additional expenditure or funding requirement.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date .3.2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : The Hospital Authority will continue to implement the Enhanced Productivity Programme to achieve 2% savings i.e. about \$600 million in 2002-03. What specific measures will be taken under the EPP to achieve the target. Will it involve manpower reduction and outsourcing? If so, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Fu-wah

Reply :

HA will implement the following initiatives in 2002 - 03 to achieve the target savings under the Enhanced Productivity Programme (EPP):

- **Centralising and networking of services among hospitals or clusters, including:**
 - rationalising psychiatric services among Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH), Castle Peak Hospital and Kwai Chung Hospital;
 - rationalising surgical services in the Kowloon Central and Kowloon East clusters;
 - implementing cluster-based pharmacy services in the Hong Kong East cluster;
 - integrating rehabilitation services at Fung Yiu King Hospital, MacLehose Medical Rehabilitation Centre, Tung Wah Hospital and Duchess of Kent Children's Hospital; and
 - integrating the management of allied health services, such as audiology and clinical psychology services, in the Hong Kong West cluster.

- **Rationalising clinical services, including:**
 - setting up an Acute Day Rehabilitation Centre in Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital to provide medical care and intensive rehabilitation support to selected patients with shorter expected length of stay in the hospital; and

- implementing a pilot five-day ward scheme in TMH to rationalize its surgical services through rescheduling of operations to enable patients to be discharged before the weekend.
- **Integrating management, administrative and finance functions, as well as streamlining processes, including**
 - Integrating finance, administration and supporting service through the implementation of cluster-based services;
 - Administrative downsizing in HA Head Office through management restructuring and extension of responsibilities of senior executives; and
 - Implementing a Third Party Logistics Store Management programme which employs external expertise to manage warehouses and other distribution functions in hospitals of the New Territories North cluster.
- **Implementing measures to achieve savings in manpower and resource utilisation, including**
 - Development of in-house biomedical engineering team to provide technical advice and support on biomedical equipment in HA hospital;
 - Implementing “invest-to-save” projects such as energy conservation and automation projects; and
 - Outsourcing non-core supporting services such as contracting out dispatch services for internal mail and horticultural services in various hospitals.

In addition, HA will be closing seven nursing schools and their associated nursing quarters by stages in light of the development pertaining to the upgrading of basic nursing education. Additional savings will also be achieved in 2002-03 through realizing the full year effect of the EPP measures implemented by HA in 2001-02.

Guided by the principle that EPP savings in manpower should not result in redundancy, HA will re-deploy existing or surplus staff for the provision of new services and the opening of new beds. The staff to be re-deployed to open new hospitals beds and provide new services include 39 medical, 273 nursing, 15 allied health and 225 other staff.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

Please list the public hospital wards in which the 366 new beds will be located and provide manning details

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

The details of hospital beds to be opened in 2002/03 are as follows:

| Care type | Location | No. of beds |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| | United Christian Hospital | 91 |
| General | North District Hospital | 4 |
| | Tuen Mun Hospital | 9 |
| Infirmary | Pok Oi Hospital - Tin Ka Ping Centre | 100 |
| Mentally Ill | Kowloon Hospital | 162 |

The planned clinical manpower for opening these 366 beds are as follows:

| | Medical | Nursing | Allied Health |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------------|
| Planned Manpower | 22 | 128 | 23 |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 19 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

- (a) Please elaborate on the change in the ratio of nursing and allied health staff of various grades to attendance under the Enhanced Productivity Programme for the current year and in 2002-03.
- (b) Please specify on ratio basis the sources from which the reduced expenditure achieved under the EPP are derived.

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

- (a) Despite the implementation of the Enhanced Productivity Programme(EPP), the Hospital Authority (HA) will increase the number of nurses and allied health professionals in 2002-03. The overall service throughput per professional remains broadly the same for 2001-02 and 2002-03 as illustrated below:

| I. | Nurses and Allied health professionals | 2001-02 (estimate) | 2002-03 (estimate) |
|-----------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Nurses | | |
| | Qualified nurse (A) | 19 303 | 19 851 |
| | Trainee | 398 | 0 |
| | Sub-total | 19 701 | 19 851 |
| | Allied health professionals (B) | 4 567 | 4 638 |
| | Total | 24 268 | 24 489 |

| | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------|--------------|
| II. | Service Throughput | | |
| | (i) No. of patient days (C) | 8 501 500 | 8 598 600 |
| | (ii) No. of in-patient and day patient discharges and deaths (D) | 1 213 600 | 1 238 260 |
| III. | Ratio | | |
| | (i) No. of patient days per qualified nurse (C)/(A) | 440 | 433 |
| | (ii) No. of in-patient and day patient discharges and deaths per qualified nurse (D)/(A) | 63 | 62 |
| | (iii) No. of patient days per allied health professional (C)/(B) | 1 862 | 1 854 |
| | (iv) No. of in-patient and day patient discharges and deaths per allied health professional (D)/(B) | 266 | 267 |

(b) In 2002-03, HA will achieve a total of \$600.4M savings under EPP, of which :

- (a) \$238.4M (40%) will be achieved through centralisation and networking of services among hospitals/clusters as well as rationalisation of clinical services;
- (b) \$164.7M (27%) will be generated from the closure of seven nursing schools and their associated nursing quarters;
- (c) \$135.2M (23%) will be derived from the realisation of the full year savings of the EPP measures implemented in 2001/02;
- (d) \$35.9M (6%) will be generated from the integration of managerial, administrative and finance functions; and
- (e) \$26.3M (4%) will come from the implementation of various measures to achieve savings in manpower and resource utilization, such as “invest-to-save” projects and outsourcing of non-core supporting services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 19 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

Question Serial No.

0111

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

Head : 177
Authority

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please specify the number of medical and nursing staff needed to provide Chinese medicine outpatient services, the sources of recruitment, the professional qualification for entry and their pay level.

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung

Reply : The Chinese Medicine (CM) outpatient service will be provided by a team of multi-disciplinary staff, comprising CM practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, dispensers and other support staff.

The Health and Welfare Bureau is in active discussion with the Hospital Authority on the implementational details of the initiative, including the staff requirement and remuneration packages. The Hospital Authority's preliminary plans are to recruit about 20 CM practitioners and 20 nurses to provide the initial services. It is intended the health care professionals concerned will generally be recruited locally and are required to meet the registration requirements of the respective professions as appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : Will the 1 000 additional care assistants to be recruited to strengthen the provision of extended care services in public hospitals be employed on temporary or permanent terms? If temporary, how long will the contract term be? When will this measure be implemented, and to which hospitals will the care assistants be deployed?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

Hospital Authority (HA) will employ a total of 1 000 care assistants to strengthen the extended care services in all 40 HA hospitals. Depending on the operational need of individual hospitals, these care assistants will be employed on fixed-term basis for 2 years. HA has already employed 330 care assistants in the first quarter of 2002. The remaining 670 care assistants will be employed in 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh _____

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 18 March 2002 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

In view of the rapid increase in the number of attendances of various services, what measures will the Hospital Authority take to lower the utilisation rate of public hospital services? What are the resources required for implementing such measures ?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

The Hospital Authority (HA) is keen to facilitate a more efficient and effective distribution of work between the different levels and sectors of health care provision. In the coming year, HA will continue to explore with the private sector the possibility of adopting the following measures to enhance public/private interface:

- (a) To encourage public/private collaboration through the formulation of referral protocols with private practitioners for the treatment of selected clinical conditions, partnership in discharge planning and shared-care protocols;
- (b) To develop collaborative models of service provision with the private sector;
- (c) To develop collaborative skills training programmes to facilitate the upgrading of medical skills of private practitioners; and
- (d) To facilitate shared-care by sharing of patient information with private practitioners.

The above initiatives will be implemented as part and parcel of HA's existing services and programmes and the resources allocated for these initiatives are not separately identifiable.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 18 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB011

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative Care

0074

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) Regarding the appointment time for new dermatology cases within 12 weeks, what are the reasons for the difference between the actual percentage achieved in 2001 (83%) and the target percentage (>90%)?
- (b) As estimated by the Government, the number of attendances at specialised dermatology out-patient clinics will rise significantly in 2002 as compared with the past two years. What are the reasons or factors for this projection?
- (c) Regarding the appointment time for new cases within 12 weeks, what measures will be taken by the Government to ensure that the target percentage can be achieved?

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

- (a) The reason for not meeting the target of more than 90% within 12 weeks is due to an increase in new referrals. In 2001, there were about 50 000 new referrals.
- (b) The estimated attendance of 120 000 is a projected figure taking into account the additional number of attendance to be served by the new dermatology clinic at the Fanling Primary Health Care Centre in 2002.
- (c) The new dermatology clinic at the Fanling Primary Health Care Centre scheduled to commence in 2002 will help to meet the increasing demand for service.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB012

Question Serial No.

0080

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 problem of young night drifters, apart from expanding 18 integrated teams, will the Government provide additional resources to open facilities in primary and secondary schools as well as local recreational and sports centres for young night drifters till late evening? If yes, please give details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : To provide centre-based support to the 18 integrated teams rendering outreaching service to young night drifters, the Social Welfare Department has secured a Lotteries Fund grant of \$16.4m for setting up a pilot all-night drop-in centre in Kwun Tong where suitable premises are readily available for a period of three years. Although located in Kwun Tong, the drop-in centre is intended to serve youth-at-risk over the territory. The location and distance should not pose a major problem as each of the integrated teams is provided with a seven-seater van, which will facilitate social workers taking young people to the drop-in centre.

At the same time, we are exploring the feasibility of setting up similar services in the northern part of the New Territories. Following initial discussion between the Director of Social Welfare and the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, the two departments are in the process of identifying a suitable indoor games hall for opening at late night. It should be noted that the venue is not intended to be just a night facility for activities, but a resource support for rendering holistic services to young people identified to be at risk by loitering the streets at night. Non-governmental

organisations (NGOs) will be commissioned to organise programmes and activities for youth-at-risk at the venue.

Separately, at a recent liaison meeting, the Director of Social Welfare and the Director of Education had exchanged views on the use of school premises after school hours. It is considered that while school premises would be a suitable venue for some form of NGO-operated after school care programme for primary students, late night opening for young people's recreational use would not be pragmatic.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB013

Question Serial No.

0085

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : In 2002-03, the Department will improve the early intervention services to tackle the speech problems of pre-school children with special needs. Please specify the measures, the resources to be spent in this field, and the extent to which the pre-school children would benefit.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Bernard

Reply : The Department will provide speech therapy service in Early Education and Training Centres (EETC) and Integrated Programme for mildly handicapped children in ordinary Child Care Centres (IP in CCC) commencing 2002-03. The resources earmarked for this initiative of providing an additional 47 speech therapists amounts to \$20.2m. A total of 1 700 children in 23 EETCs and 1 704 children in 284 units of IP in CCCs will benefit from this new service.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB014

Question Serial No.

0086

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 estimated that in 2002-03, the number of children available for adoption placed into local homes within three months will be 110, the same as in 2000-01 and 2001-02. Please state the number of children waiting to be adopted; the measures, if any, the Department will adopt to enable more needy children to be placed in suitable families; and the additional manpower and resources, if any, to be spent in this area to speed up the matching process.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Bernard

Reply : Children referred for adoption are those who require a permanent and stable home because their parents abandon them or relinquish the parental rights. The estimated number of 110 children referred to in the performance indicator of children "available for adoption and placed with local homes within three months" in 2002-03 is based on the actual number of children placed in 1999-2000 and 2000-01. In other words, it is only an estimate based on past trend.

At present, an average of about ten new cases are referred for local adoption each month. There are currently 77 approved prospective local adoptive parent(s). A Matching Panel is held bi-weekly in the Adoption Unit to match children referred for local adoption with the most suitable adoptive parent(s). Social workers can start processing the matching immediately upon receiving the referral. There is therefore no accumulated waiting list for local adoption. The matching process normally takes one to three months as time is needed to arrange meetings and weekend trial placements for the child and prospective adoptive parent(s) concerned in preparation for the formal placement. The exact period

required will vary from case to case. Normally, younger children (e.g. infant) with no medical and health complexities can be placed within a shorter period, say one month.

The existing manpower and resources are adequate to provide an efficient and effective adoption service.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB015

Head : 186 – Transport Department

Subhead (No. & title) : Question Serial No.

0082

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : “Providing support in developing measures to promote self-reliance among people with disabilities and enhance their employment opportunities” is one of the matters requiring special attention in 2002-03. However, the waiting time for Rehabus service could be as long as 10 months. Is there any plan for providing additional resources for Rehabus? If so, please give details. If not, why?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : The operator of Rehabus will be provided with two additional vehicles to strengthen its scheduled services in 2002. With these two new vehicles, the Rehabus fleet will be expanded from 68 in 1998 to 78 in 2002, representing an increase of 14.7% over 4 years. The two new vehicles will be deployed to operate two new scheduled services.

On average, the waiting time for scheduled route Rehabus service is 38 days. The Rehabus operator will examine the origins and destinations of the applicants on the waiting list when formulating the detailed routings of the new scheduled services so as to accommodate as many passengers as possible. Priority will be given to passengers who have been offered employment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title _____ Commissioner for Transport

Date _____ 20 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-
03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY
QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HWB016

Question Serial No.

0143

Head: 149 Government Secretariat :

Subhead(No. & title):

Health and Welfare Bureau

Programme: (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer: Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary: Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

Please detail the work of the Women's Commission and the expenditure involved for the past and the coming years.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply:

The Women's Commission was established on 15 January 2001. It has laid down as its mission: "To enable women in Hong Kong to fully realise their due status, rights and opportunities in all aspects of life." Three priority areas of action, namely gender mainstreaming, empowerment of women and public education, have been identified. \$23.73 million has been allocated to HWB to support the work of the Women's Commission in each financial year in 2001-02 and 2002-03. Major programme items of the Women's Commission include:-

| Programme Items | 2001-02 Approved Provision (in million) | 2001-02 Revised Estimates (in million) | 2002-03 Estimates (in million) |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| • promotional and education programmes | \$4.87 | \$2.17 | \$4.87 |
| • researches, studies and surveys | \$4.37 | \$0.16 | \$3.70 |

| | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| • collection of sex-disaggregated data | \$1.95 | \$0.65 | \$1.95 |
| • gender-sensitive training courses for civil servants | \$1.49 | \$0.43 | \$1.49 |
| • liaison with local and international organisations | \$0.40 | \$0.50 | \$0.40 |

The revised estimates for the year 2001-02 are much lower than the approved provisions because the Women's Commission is a newly set up body. It has to spend some time to deliberate and plan its activities. As a result, the expenditure arising from its activities, including public education programmes and the Women's Commission Conference 2002 will be incurred mainly in the 2002-03 financial year. Now that the Women's Commission's work is gathering momentum, more programmes will be launched in 2002-03. These include:-

- launching promotional and education programmes to raise general awareness of women-related issues and change deeply entrenched misconceptions about women and men (\$4.87 million);
- conducting research, studies and surveys to identify women's interests, needs and concerns (\$3.70 million);
- collecting sex-disaggregated data for building up a database on women-related statistics (\$1.95 million);
- conducting gender-sensitive training courses for civil servants to facilitate the taking into account of women's perspectives during policy formulation, the legislative process and the implementation phase (\$1.49 million); and
- maintaining liaison with local women's groups and service agencies, and building up a liaison network with relevant international bodies (\$0.40 million).

Other activities which will be absorbed by the staff of the Policy Bureau include:-

- reviewing services for women and promoting the development of new or improved services;
- promotion of capacity building programmes for women and creation of an enabling environment for women's participation in society; and
- pilot testing "Gender Mainstreaming Checklist" (i.e. incorporation of women's perspectives in the process of policy making) in several policy areas.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | _____ Dr E K YEOH _____ |
| Post Title | _____ SHW _____ |
| Date | _____ 18.3.2002 _____ |

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB017

Question Serial No.

0144

Head: 149 Government Secretariat :

Subhead(No. & title):

Health and Welfare Bureau

Programme: (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer: Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary: Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

How much of the estimated expenditure of \$23 million or so provided for the Women's Commission in the coming year will be incurred by the Government in its implementation of the scheme on "Gender Mainstreaming Checklist" in various policy areas? Please furnish details of the scheme.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply:

"Gender Mainstreaming" means incorporating women's needs and perspectives in the mainstream policy making process. The Women's Commission has developed a "Gender Mainstreaming Checklist" as an analytical tool to facilitate government bureaux and departments to consider gender perspectives in their policy making process. Based on the "Checklist", a pilot test is being carried out in five policy areas. They are : "District Council Review", "Family Education Programme", "Health Care Reform", "Enhanced Home and Community Care Services for the Elderly", and "Secondary School Places Allocation System".

Participating bureaux and departments are required to follow the Checklist to examine whether their policy proposals cater for the needs and concerns of women during different stages of design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and review. The process of considering gender perspectives is intended to ensure women and men have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities, with the aim of achieving women's advancement and gender equality.

The bureaux and departments participating in the pilot test have been consulted and views from interested NGOs and academia have been sought. The Women's Commission will further discuss with interested parties during the Women's Commission Conference to be held in May 2002. A review will be

conducted in August 2002 to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of using the Checklist as a tool to introduce gender mainstreaming in the policy areas tested. The Women's Commission will then refine the Checklist if necessary and consider the feasibility of applying the tool to other policy areas.

Apart from the administrative and staffing support given to the Women's Commission to take forward work in this area, gender sensitivity training programmes are also offered to civil servants to raise their gender awareness and to facilitate the conduct of the gender mainstreaming exercise. The cost of providing such gender training programmes in 2002-2003 is estimated to be \$1.49 million. Other costs, if any, incurred in carrying out the gender mainstreaming exercise will be absorbed by the participating bureaux and departments.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | _____ Dr E K YEOH _____ |
| Post Title | _____ SHW _____ |
| Date | _____ 18.3.2002 _____ |

Reply Serial No.

HWB018

Question Serial No.

0117

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 and child protection workers remains at 74 for the coming year. However, the Government estimates that the number of supervision cases served will increase from 4 407 in 2001-02 to 4 791 in 2002-03, while the number of supervision cases per worker will drop from 42 to 37. Please explain why with the same number of workers and an increase in the number of cases, the number of supervision cases per worker will decrease? Will those in need of such assistance be deprived of suitable service?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The average number of cases per worker is calculated on the basis of the number of workers available in each month throughout the year. In the beginning of 2001-02, the number of workers was 55; this has been increased by phases to 74 by the end of 2001-02. With the full complement of additional staff available every month throughout the year 2002-03, the average number of cases per worker in 2002-03 is estimated to be lower than 2001-02 despite an anticipated increase in cases. Protection of victims from domestic violence is a priority area of work of the Social Welfare Department. We will ensure that support services are always available to those in need.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB019

Question Serial No.

0118

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 Government estimates that in the financial year 2002-03, the number of cases receiving the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) will increase to 313 300, while those receiving the Social Security Allowance (SSA) will increase to 644 100. Among the new cases of the CSSA, how many are estimated to be unemployment-driven and what is the breakdown of the estimated recipients of the SSA for the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The 313 300 cases under the CSSA Scheme and 644 100 cases under the SSA Scheme refer to the estimated numbers of cases served, not cases receiving CSSA/SSA at any point in time. These are the projected numbers of cases to be handled by the Social Security Field Units during 2002-03 which include new applications, cases being reviewed, cases closed during the year, cases authorised for payment, and cases suspended for payment pending review. For the purpose of estimating provision for CSSA and SSA, we focus on the projected changes in the numbers of cases receiving payment.

For CSSA, we have estimated that the average number of cases with payment for 2002-03 will increase by 22 000, as compared to those in 2001-02, among which the estimated increase in unemployment cases with payment is 11 700. This has taken account of the increasing trend in unemployment cases noted since early 2001.

For SSA, we estimate that the increase from 2001-02 to 2002-03 in the average number of cases with payment under the category of Higher Old Age Allowance, Higher Disability Allowance and Normal Disability Allowance will be 43 600, 1 500 and 5 700 respectively. The average number of Normal Old Age Allowance cases in 2002-03 is estimated to be about the same as in 2001-02.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB020

Question Serial No.

0119

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 estimate of expenditure on social security for 2002-03, how much will be spent on administrative cost and on staff salaries and allowances? What is the average cost (including staff salaries and other administrative cost, etc.) for each Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme case?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In respect of social security, the total amount to be spent on administrative cost and staff salaries and allowances is estimated at \$602.8m in 2002-03, of which \$454.7m is for CSSA.

The average cost (including staff salaries and other administrative cost, etc.) for serving each CSSA case (based on the projected number of 313 300) is \$1,451 per year.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB021

Question Serial No.

0120

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : Please account for a difference of \$76m (20.9%) between the approved and revised estimates for the government sector in 2001-02.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The increase of \$76m (or 20.9%) in the 2001-02 revised estimate over the 2001-02 approved estimate for the government sector under Programme (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services is mainly due to the following factors:

- (a) Additional provision of \$58.75m for implementing a comprehensive package to provide better care for people with disabilities as announced by the Financial Secretary in his 2001-02 Budget Speech. This includes three projects namely, Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprises (\$5m), On-the-job Training Programme for People with Disabilities (\$3.75m); and Setting up of the Hong Kong Paralympians Fund (\$50m);
- (b) Additional provision of \$7.3m for implementing other services under the above package in 2001-02; and
- (c) Additional expenditure of \$10m incurred in 2001-02 for effecting the 2001 pay adjustment for civil servants included under this programme.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

26 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB022

Question Serial No.

0121

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : In the Estimate of Expenditure, what is the number of people waiting for places in respect of each type of residential service and day service and what is the average waiting time for each applicant for the service?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : Waiting lists and waiting time of major rehabilitation services are as follows :

| Service | Waiting List (as at Dec 2001) | Average Waiting Time in 2001 (months) |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Residential Services | | |
| Halfway House | 452 | 4 |
| Long Stay Care Home | 1 038 | 55 |
| Hostel for Moderately Mentally Handicapped Persons | 1 139 | 41 |
| Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons | 1 793 | 45 |
| Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons | 211 | 50 |
| Care & Attention Home for Severely Disabled Persons | 363 | 24 |
| Home for the Aged Blind | 47 | 11 |
| Care & Attention Home for the Aged Blind | 131 | 31 |

| Service | Waiting List (as at Dec 2001) | Average Waiting Time in 2001 (months) |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Day Services | | |
| Training and Activity Centre for Ex-mentally Ill Persons | 61 | 3 |
| Day Activity Centre for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons | 1 111 | 22 |
| Pre-school Services | | |
| Early Education and Training Centre | 547 | 6 |
| Integrated Programme in Child Care Centre | 597 | 10 |
| Special Child Care Centre | 275 | 12 |
| Employment Services | | |
| Sheltered Workshop | 1 678 | 9 |

In respect of waitlistees for residential services, it should be noted that a number of them are currently living with and taken care of by their families and carers. With strengthened community support services to assist the carers of people with disabilities, we hope that the need for residential care would be reduced.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : According to the Estimate, there will be strengthening of the staff provision in home-based training teams and halfway houses, and provision of 13 additional home-based training teams for the disabled persons. Please provide the following information:

- (a) What is the expenditure for each of the three items mentioned above; the target group for the new home-based services, and the estimated number of persons benefiting from the services?
- (b) What are the type and expenditure of home-based services currently offered to the disabled persons by the Government and the subvented organisations? and,
- (c) Does the Government intend to replace the residential services for the disabled persons wholly/partly by home-based services? Has the Government set down any targets (including time schedule, the percentage of residential services to be replaced)?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) The estimated expenditure in 2002-03 for strengthening the existing home-based training teams, additional staff in 20 halfway houses and 13 additional home-based training teams are \$5.2m, \$9.3m and \$22.3m (half-year provision) respectively. The 18 home-based training teams are to serve mentally handicapped and physically handicapped adults, particularly those on the waiting list for rehabilitation services. It is estimated that 3 500 people with disabilities and their families will benefit.

The strengthening of the manpower provision in halfway houses is to form the “Community Mental Health Link” which is a new network to provide care and support programmes through outreaching visits, counselling, consultation on employment, social and educational activities etc. to over 2 000 ex-mentally ill persons and their families/carers living in the community in a year. The project has been advanced to commence operation in January 2002.

- (b) At present, there are five subvented home-based training teams serving 350 cases of mentally handicapped persons. The expenditure in 2001-02 for this service is \$12.9m. Other home-based services serving people with disabilities include Domiciliary Occupational Therapy Service (\$2.4m in 2001-02), Home Help Service and Home Care Service which serve both elderly and the disabled (\$351.7m and \$28.1m in 2001-02 respectively).
- (c) The Government has no plan to replace existing residential services by home-based services. As a matter of fact, projects are in the pipeline to provide 2 000 additional residential places by 2006-07. Our aim to improve community support services is to introduce more service options for people with disabilities and their families and to provide them with better assistance while remaining at home.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB024

Question Serial No.

0249

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 Government will strengthen the Special Investigation Teams (SITs) to safeguard public expenditure from fraud and abuse in the coming year. What is the estimated amount of resources for investigating fraud cases of assistance in the coming year? Does the expenditure represent any increase or decrease over that of last year? How many fraud cases of assistance were detected and how much public money was saved for the Government last year?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply : To strengthen SITs to safeguard public expenditure from fraud and abuse in 2002-03, a total of 56 additional staff will be provided to SITs in the coming year. It should however be noted that in view of increasing workload, the Department has been redeploying some 15 and 38 existing staff from the field units to the SITs since 8 May 2000 and 2 April 2001 respectively. With the additional provision in 2002-03, the SITs will have a full and permanent establishment of 90 staff. The estimated total expenditure of SITs in 2002-03 will be \$47.1m. In comparison with the expenditure of 2001-02, there will be an increase of \$12.1m.

As at the end of December 2001, out of the total number of 2 276 suspected fraud cases reported in the year 2001-02, together with 1 365 outstanding cases brought forward, 1 949 cases have been fully investigated. There were 198 cases where fraud had been established. The total amount of overpayment involved is \$10.3m and action will be taken by the Department to recover the amounts.

| | |
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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB025

Question Serial No.

0124

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department
514 - for the CSSA

Subhead : 700 (Item
Consultancy study on
risk management
and SSA Schemes)

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The total expenditure on the Consultancy study on risk management was \$2.990m for the financial year 2001-02. Please provide the scope and findings of the study.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The scope of the study was to assist the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to define a targeted risk management framework. The framework will provide SWD with the ways and means to mitigate the risk areas, improve the standards of accountability and to enhance the overall management practice in the administration of the social security schemes.

The study found that SWD has gone some way to developing the basis for adopting risk management. A number of business activities in administering the schemes are largely in place to prevent, detect and deter risk exposures. However, in order to adopt a well defined and structured risk management practice, there is room for improvement in the areas of review processes, organisation, information technology support and ongoing performance monitoring mechanism.

| | |
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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB026

Question Serial No.

0125

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : In the financial year 2001-02, \$5m was spent on "Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise". Please provide the scope and result of the scheme.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Government has earmarked \$50m for launching the "Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprises" project (the Project). The Project is to make grants to non-governmental organisations to create and run small business employing people with disabilities. The maximum amount of grant is \$2m per business. The number of employees with disabilities employed should not be less than 60% of the total number of persons employed. The Department invited the first batch of applications in September 2001 and a total of 33 applications were received. Presently, six applications with a total allocation of around \$5m have been approved by the Department. The businesses are expected to start operation by mid 2002. About 120 employment opportunities with more than 70 of them earmarked for people with disabilities will be created. Meanwhile, we have identified a further six applications which subject to clarification by the agencies concerned and the necessary refinement could also be considered for funding. We shall invite a second batch of new applications in early 2003. Prior to that, we will arrange briefing and experience sharing sessions as needed.

| | |
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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB027

Question Serial No.

0141

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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 : In the Estimate, services provided by the community-based programmes for ex-offenders include employment assistance. Please provide the following information:

- (1) number of people that received employment assistance in 2001-02; and
- (2) among these people, how many got employed successfully? Please give a breakdown of the nature of their employment.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

- Reply :
- (1) In the first three quarters in 2001-02, 681 discharged prisoners and ex-offenders were rendered employment rehabilitation services, including job seeking, employment resources and interview skills training, etc. and were referred to job interviews.
 - (2) Among the 681 cases quoted above, 335 were placed in jobs comprising 191 (i.e. 57%) worked as cleansing workers and 104 (i.e. 31%) as transportation workers. The remaining 40 (i.e. 12%) took up jobs in various trades such as waiters, kitchen helpers, construction site workers, shopkeepers, hair salon assistants, express delivery workers, clerks, gardeners, personal care workers and warehouse workers, etc..

| | |
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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB028

Question Serial No.

0142

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : Part of the revised estimated expenditure for 2001-02 was used in providing the services of the Marketing Consultancy Office. Please give a breakdown of its expenditure and the service items provided.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The revised estimate of the Marketing Consultancy Office (Rehabilitation) [MCO(R)] in 2001-02 is \$3.336m and its breakdown is \$2.526m for staff salaries and operating expenses and \$0.810m for programme expenses. The objective of the Office is to enhance the employment opportunities for people with disabilities through innovative, effective and efficient business development and marketing approaches. The core business of MCO(R) are: (i) Strategic business development including the securing of sales orders for sheltered workshops and supported employment and assisting the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in setting up small business for facilitating the employment of disabled persons; (ii) Business consulting and training such as providing tailor-made consultation and training programmes for the NGOs; and (iii) Strategic marketing and promotion including the creation of strategic partnership with private and public bodies for promoting the employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The MCO(R) came into operation in April 2001 and so far, it has formed a strong alliance with more than 8 000 people with disabilities in sheltered workshops and supported employment services. Some of the achievements include the setting up of two sales kiosks and one rehabilitation equipment shop, organised 15 training and promotion programmes, generated 67 jobs in open and supported employment for people with disabilities and secured 163 job orders and nine tendering contracts with the total value of

HK\$3.8m. In addition, MCO(R) also takes up advisory and monitoring function for the two new employment-related projects of 'On-the-job Training Programme for People with Disabilities' and 'Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise'.

| | |
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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB029

Question Serial No.

0168

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 financial provision of the subvented sector/providers of services for elders in the private sector sees an increase of 16% from \$2,925.4m in 2001-02 (Revised) to \$3,392.2m in 2002-03. In what way is the financial provision shared between the two sectors? Will the rate of out-sourcing to the private sector be increased? How will the service quality of the private sector be monitored?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The breakdown of financial provision between the subvented sector and private sector in 2001-02 are as follows:

| | 2001-02 Revised Estimate (\$m) |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Subvented Sector | 2,586.2 |
| Private Sector | 339.2 |
| Total | 2,925.4 |

In 2001-02, private sector organisations participated in the provision of two types of services, namely Bought Place Scheme/Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (BPS/EBPS) and Meal Service. In 2002-03, new services available for private sector participation will include five residential care homes for the elderly (RCHE), enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) and expansion of places under EBPS. The share of the private sector in 2002-03 cannot be ascertained at this stage pending completion of the open tendering processes for services like RCHEs and EHCCS.

The service quality of all contract services, whether the selected operator is coming from the non-governmental organisations or private sector, is governed by contract documents signed between the Social Welfare Department

and the service operators. For BPS/EBPS, the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly comprising four inspectorate teams, namely Fire Safety, Building Safety, Health and Care, and Social Work would conduct surprise inspections regularly to ensure the participating homes fully comply with both licensing and BPS/EBPS standards throughout the contract periods. Meal service is subject to a robust monitoring mechanism put in place by the Contract Management Section to manage the compliance of contract terms and conditions through regular audits and service reviews, spot checks, complaints investigation and user satisfaction surveys. RCHEs under contracts are likewise closely monitored.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 20 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB030

Question Serial No.

0169

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : In 2001, the Department implemented the "On-the-job Training Programme for People with Disabilities" to promote self-reliance. What is the result of this? Will additional provision be allocated in 2002-03 to enable more people with disabilities to receive on-the-job training?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The Department has started to implement the "On-the-job Training Programme for People with Disabilities" (the Programme) in October 2001. It is a three-year project with a capacity of 360 places per year making a total provision of 1 080 places. Job training/counselling, job attachment, job trial and post-placement service will be offered to people with disabilities. 14 non-governmental organisations have been selected to operate the Programme. In the first four months of their operation, a total of 175 people with disabilities have been admitted with 79 job attachment placements and 12 job trial placements arranged. In addition, 14 participants have already secured open employment through the Programme. The Department will conduct a mid-term evaluation of the Programme 18 months after its operation. As the project is only at the initial stage of implementation, we have no plan to increase the provision in 2002-03.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB031

Question Serial No.

0170

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead : Capital
Account Subhead
700 General other non-
recurrent and
Subhead 787 Grant to the Emergency
Relief Fund (block vote)

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2001-02, both the heading of Total, Other Non-recurrent
and Total, Capital Account showed the same amount at
\$98.990m. Why this is reduced significantly to \$54.229m in
the 2002-03 Estimates?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : Provision under the Capital Account is based on the
estimated cashflow required in the year to carry out the
approved non-recurrent commitments. The difference
between 2001-02 and 2002-03 of about \$45m is mainly
accounted for by a one-off expenditure item of \$50m in
2001-02 for setting up The Hong Kong Paralympians Fund.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB032

Question Serial No.

0180

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 is the amount of public money spent on the provision of correctional residential services (eg. boys'/girls' homes) for each young offender in 2002-03? Does it represent any increase or decrease when compared against the figure of last year?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : The comparison of unit cost per resident per month of correctional homes for 2001-02 and 2002-03 is listed in the table below:

| Types of Home | Financial Year | 2001-02 (Estimate) | 2002-03 (Estimate) | Difference between 2001-02 and 2002-03 | |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|-------|
| | | (\$) | (\$) | (\$) | (%) |
| (I) Probation Homes | | | | | |
| Cost per resident per month | | 29,395 | 29,117 | -278 | -0.9 |
| Cost per resident per month with staff oncost | | 40,322 | 40,084 | -238 | -0.6 |
| (II) Probation Hostel | | | | | |
| Cost per resident per month | | 14,308 | 14,791 | +483 | 3.4 |
| Cost per resident per month with staff oncost | | 19,779 | 20,546 | +767 | 3.9 |
| (III) Reformatory School | | | | | |
| Cost per resident per month | | 45,786 | 41,336 | -4,450 | -9.7 |
| Cost per resident per month with staff oncost | | 64,007 | 57,345 | -6,662 | -10.4 |
| (IV) Remand Homes/Places of Refuge | | | | | |
| Cost per resident per month | | 43,621 | 43,328 | -293 | -0.7 |
| Cost per resident per month with staff oncost | | 60,790 | 60,272 | -518 | -0.9 |

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

26 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB033

Head : 186 – Transport Department

Subhead (No. & title) : Question Serial No.

0171

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : (a) It is estimated that both the patronage of scheduled and dial-a-ride services of Rehabus and the number of people with disabilities waiting for scheduled service of Rehabus will increase. However, only 2 Rehabuses are planned to be procured in 2002-03. Is that enough? In view of the long waiting time of the passengers for the Rehabus service, will the Administration consider to allocate additional resources for the procurement of additional vehicles to shorten the waiting time?

(b) What are the routings of the 2 additional vehicles that aim to expand the scheduled service?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : (a) Having regard to the projected increase in demand for Rehabus service, two additional vehicles will be provided in 2002. With these two new vehicles, the Rehabus fleet will be expanded from 68 in 1998 to 78 in 2002 representing an increase of 14.7% over 4 years.

(b) The above-mentioned two new vehicles will be deployed to operate two scheduled services by late 2002. The Rehabus operator will examine the origins and destinations of the applicants on the waiting list when formulating the detailed routings of the new scheduled services so as to accommodate as many passengers as possible.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 20 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB034

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

0145

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question:

Of the provision of \$30,275.6 million for 2002/03 as mentioned in paragraph 65, what are the additional funds provided to the Hospital Authority under the population-based funding mechanism? New services include the introduction of Chinese medicine out-patient services, implementation of an elderly suicide prevention programme, implementation of a pilot EXITERS project and establishment of ten hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres. Please specify the establishment, unit costs and anticipated number of clients in respect of each of these services.

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

Additional funds amounting to \$691M will be provided to the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2002-03 under the population-based funding mechanism to meet the increase in service demand due to the growth and ageing of population.

The estimated number of staff required and clients served under the four new programmes to be implemented by HA in 2002-03 are as follows:

| New Services | Estimated Number of Staff Required | Estimated Number of Clients Served | Unit Cost of Services (excluding one-off set up cost) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chinese medicine (CM) out-patient services | The proposed CM outpatient service will be provided by a multi-disciplinary team, comprising CM practitioners, nurses, pharmacists/dispensers and other supporting staff. HA's preliminary plan is to recruit about 20 CM practitioners and 20 nurses to provide the CM service at the initial stage. | The Health and Welfare Bureau is working with HA on the implementation details, including performance indicators. | Not available as implementation details are being worked out. |
| Elderly Suicide Prevention Programme | 22 (comprising 7 medical staff and 15 nurses) | About 350 elderly persons with suicidal risks will be served in 2002-03 and about 700 elderly persons from 2003-04 onwards. | \$21,603 per elderly person served |
| Extended-care patients Intensive Treatment, Early diversion and Rehabilitation Stepping-stone (EXITERS) project | 70 (comprising 6 medical staff, 20 nurses, 9 allied health staff, and 35 supporting staff) | The pilot project will last for five years. About 100 patients will be selected to join the programme in 2002-03, 125 patients in 2003-04 and 150 patients per year from 2004-05 onwards. | \$1,143 per patient day |

| New Services | Estimated Number of Staff Required | Estimated Number of Clients Served | Unit Cost of Services (excluding one-off set up cost) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 hospital-affiliated and 5 general outpatient clinic-based smoking counselling & cessation centres | 30 (comprising 20 nurses and 10 supporting staff) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Telephone enquiry services – 2 500 per centre per year ▪ Telephone counselling services - 1 000 per centre per year ▪ No. of clients attending smoking cessation sessions – 500 per centre per year | \$1.48 million per centre |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB035

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Question Serial No.

0146

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

- (a) Regarding the transfer of the Department of Health's general outpatient clinics to the Hospital Authority, which clinics will be transferred to the Authority in 2002-03? What is the respective funding to be provided and anticipated number of patients in each of these clinics?
- (b) Regarding the general outpatient clinics already transferred to the Hospital Authority, please compare the staff establishment; staff, medicine and other costs; number of consultations and attendances in respect of patients in general and the elderly; and the cost per consultation before and after the transfer.

Asked by : Hon LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The Government is working with the Hospital Authority (HA) on the implementation plan, including the financial arrangement, for the transfer of the remaining 59 General Out-patient Clinics (GOPCs) from the Department of Health to HA, including the timing of the transfer (the other five GOPCs had been transferred to HA in 2001/02 under a pilot scheme). There will be no GOPCs transferred from the Department of Health (DH) to the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2002-03.
- (b) The requested information for the five pilot GOPCs transferred to HA in 2001/02 is listed below:

Staff

| | Before the transfer | After the transfer |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Medical | 21 | 43 |
| Nursing | 46 | 33 |
| Dispensing | 25 | 28 |
| Clerical | 19 | 21 |
| Domestic support | 30 | 40 |

Number of consultations and attendance

HA will maintain the same level of patient services provided by DH before the transfer, which will be about 500,000 consultations a year. The level of elderly priority discs will also be maintained. There is however no separate statistics on the total number of elderly attendances.

Cost per consultation

The cost per consultation before and after the transfer is \$226 and \$221 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB036

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Question Serial No.

0147

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

- (a) How much saving in emolument expenditure has the Hospital Authority achieved since the implementation of the new starting salaries for the civil service on 1 April 2001? Please give details on the starting, maximum and average salaries for staff members at all ranks before and after the adjustment.
- (b) Please give a comparison regarding the starting and maximum salaries and staff on-costs among medical officers at various ranks after the implementation of the two-tier system. What is the number of medical officers recruited under the two-tier system? What is their average salary? What impact has the two-tier system had on the emolument expenditure of the Hospital Authority?
- (c) Please give a list of the programmes that have contributed to the continuous increase in personal emoluments and staff on-costs in the past 3 years.
- (d) Please give details on the personal emoluments and staff on-costs for all hospital chief executives and cluster chief executives. Please also indicate the personal emoluments of those Hospital Authority staff members who have higher salaries than the hospital chief executives.

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The estimated payroll savings resulting from the implementation of new civil service starting salary are approximately \$27 million per annum. The savings achieved have been deducted from the Government's annual recurrent subvention to the Hospital Authority (HA) since 2001-02.

Following Government's review on the civil service starting salary, the HA has reviewed the pay level and structures of all HA staff ranks. The HA Board approved the lowering of the starting pay of 97 ranks with effect from 1 April 2000. The magnitude of the starting salary reduction in these 97 ranks is basically in line with those comparable ranks in the civil service and is summarized below.

| No. of increment points reduced in the starting salary | Number of ranks involved |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1 point | 38 |
| 2 points | 15 |
| 4 points | 14 |
| 5 points | 29 |
| 6 points | 1 |

- (b) A comparison of the pay scale of doctors before and after the implementation of the new medical grade structure on 1 June 2000 is given below:

| Ranking and Pay Structure before 1.6.2000 | | | Ranking and Pay Structure after 1.6.2000 | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rank | Salary Scale | Mid-point | Rank | Salary Scale | Mid-point |
| Consultant D4 | #HGPS 53-53A (\$152,400-\$157,050) | HGPS 53A (\$157,050) | Consultant | HGPS 53-53A (\$152,400-\$157,050) | HGPS 53A (\$157,050) |
| Consultant D3 | HGPS 52-52B (\$134,300-\$142,300) | HGPS 52A (\$138,250) | | HGPS 52-52B (\$134,300-\$142,300) | HGPS 52A (\$138,250) |
| Consultant D2 | HGPS 51-51B (\$122,450-\$130,050) | HGPS 51A (\$126,250) | | HGPS 50-51B (\$103,150-\$130,050) | HGPS 51 (\$122,450) |
| Senior Medical & Health Officer | HGPS 45-49 (\$80,300-\$92,510) | HGPS 47 (\$86,200) | Associate Consultant | HGPS 40-49 (\$65,915-\$92,510) | HGPS 45 (\$80,300) |
| Medical & Health Officer | HGPS 27-44B (\$36,125-\$83,185) | HGPS 38 (\$60,395) | Resident | HGPS 27-38 (\$36,125-\$60,395) | HGPS 33 (\$47,590) |

Note: All salary figures are adjusted to the current pay level.

HGPS refers to HA General Pay Scale

The fringe benefits of the new medical ranks are basically the same as those for medical ranks before 1 June 2000.

The number of doctors employed under the new medical grade structure as at 28 February 2002 is as follows: -

| Rank | Number of Staff (as at 28.2.02) |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Consultant | 50 |
| Associate Consultant | 89 |
| Resident | 590 |
| Total | 729 |

The new medical grade structure is operated according to the cost neutrality principle. All payroll savings generated from the revised pay structure are used to finance the appointment of additional medical staff.

(c) After discounting the effect of annual salary increment for those existing staff who have not yet reached the maximum salary point in their pay scale and the increase in salary as a result of the 2001 pay adjustment, the personal emoluments and staff on-costs of HA actually decreased by 0.5% during the period 1999-2000 to 2001-02. Programmes where HA has devoted new or additional staff resources in the past three years include:

- Opening a total of 1029 new beds and 40 day places;
- Increasing the number of family medicine trainees in HA by about 100;
- Employing additional personal care and ward supporting staff to assist health care professionals in patient care in 2001-02;
- Strengthening community psychiatric services, including increasing the number of community psychiatric teams from five to eight in 2001-02;
- Implementing a pilot programme in 2001-02 to assess 1 400 persons aged under 25 to identify for early treatment those suffering from psychosis;
- Extending coverage of the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams to older persons in private residential care homes in 2001-02; and

- Increasing visits to and contacts with discharged mental patients through the appointment of additional community workers in 2001-02.
- (d) The remuneration package of HA's senior executives (i.e. Hospital Chief Executives (HCE), Cluster Chief Executives (CCE) and directors and deputy directors of HA Head Office) comprises the following:
- (i) Basic salary, ranging from \$63,915 to \$161,165 per month
 - (ii) Monthly cash allowance, ranging from 37% to 60% of basic salary
 - (iii) Provident Fund Scheme for permanent employees (at 15% of basic salary, or an equivalent amount for staff under the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme); Contract Gratuity and Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme for contract employees (at 15% of basic salary)
 - (v) Annual leave of 21-28 days per year depending on years of service
 - (vi) Free medical outpatient and hospitalisation benefits for employees and eligible family members
 - (vii) Free dental benefits for employees and eligible family members
 - (vii) Home Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme
 - (ix) Death Benefits
 - (x) Disability Benefits
 - (xi) Employees' Compensation

(xii) Professional indemnity insurance

The CCEs and HCEs are also eligible for a performance incentive award of up to 15% of their total basic salary plus cash allowance.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

What are the numbers of non-Hong Kong residents using the various services provided by Hospital Authority in the years 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively? What are the nationalities for the majority of them? What are the amounts of cost recovered, the number of people who have the fees waived, and the amount of fees waived in these two years respectively?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The number of cases involving non-entitled persons (NEP) during the period April to September 2001 is set out below. Information on NEP cases for the latter half of 2001-02 and for 2002-03 is not yet available. Information on the nationality of patients is not available as the Hospital Authority does not collate such information.

| Type of services | No. of cases |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| In-patient services | 2 916 |
| | |
| Out-patient services | |
| General out-patient | 209 |
| Specialist out-patient | 2 469 |
| Psychiatric day hospital | 58 |
| Geriatric day hospital | 6 |
| Community nursing service | 96 |
| Community psychiatric nursing service | 10 |

For the period from April to September 2001, the amount of medical fees paid by NEP, the amount of waiver granted to NEP, and the number of NEP cases with fees waived are as follows:

| Type of services | Fees paid by NEP HK\$'000 | Waiver granted to NEP HK\$'000 | No. of NEP cases with fees waived |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| In-patient services | 18,657 | 11,799 | 518 |
| | | | |
| Out-patient services | | | |
| General out-patient | 40 | 0.4 | 2 |
| Specialist out-patient | 1,002 | 122 | 280 |
| Psychiatric day hospital | 0 | 30 | 58 |
| Geriatric day hospital | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Community nursing service | 9 | 25 | 70 |
| Community psychiatric nursing service | 0 | 11 | 10 |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB038

Question Serial No.

0149

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

What is the expenditure on medicine, its proportion in the total expenditure and the amount spent on purchase of new medicine respectively, the approved and revised provision for 2000-01 and 2001-02 as well as the estimate for 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-Kwong

Reply :

The actual drug expenditure of the Hospital Authority (HA) for 2000-01 was \$1,625 Million, representing 5.6% of HA's total recurrent expenditure for the year. HA's projected drug expenditure for 2001-02 is \$1,776 Million, representing 5.9% of the revised estimate of HA's 2001-02 recurrent expenditure. The projected drug expenditure for 2002-03 is \$1,845 Million, accounting for 6.0% of the 2002-03 estimate of HA's recurrent expenditure.

Out of the total drug expenditure, HA spent about 6% in 2000-01 on purchasing new drugs, and the projected percentage for 2001-02 is around 8.6%. The approval of new drugs in the HA is considered during the course of the year when new drugs come into the market and are assessed to be cost-effective. Present indications are that HA will spend in 2002-03 about the same level as in the previous year on new drugs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 20 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB039

Question Serial No.

0150

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

- (a) Please state the numbers of doctors, nurses and allied health professionals in each cluster as well as the respective ratios of the staff to the population.
- (b) Please state the median waiting time for first appointment and the cost per attendance and per patient for the medicine, surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, ophthalmology and oncology specialties in each cluster and in the Hospital Authority as a whole.
- (c) Please state the specialties and diseases with the longest and shortest waiting time for specialist out-patient services and non-urgent operations in each cluster.
- (d) Please state the numbers and unit costs of general beds, psychiatric beds, day places, geriatric day places, community nurses and community psychiatric nurses in each cluster, and the respective ratios of these services to the population.

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The number of medical staff, nurses and allied health professionals, and the ratio of the number of such staff to the population in each of the five mega-clusters of the Hospital Authority (HA) as at 28 February 2002 are as follows:-

| Mega-cluster | No. of medical staff as at 28.2.02 | Ratio per effective population * (per 1 000 population) |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Hong Kong+ (HK) | 1 067 | 0.70 |
| Kowloon East+ (KE) | 1 064 | 0.68 |
| Kowloon West+ (KW) | 1 098 | 0.60 |
| New Territories East+ (NTE) | 759 | 0.62 |
| New Territories West+ (NTW) | 475 | 0.56 |
| Total | 4 463 | 0.64 |

* Effective population represents the population actually served by the mega-cluster, which takes into account the inter-cluster flow of patients due to factors such as patient preference, location of a patient's work place and distribution of specialised services in different mega-clusters.

+ HK mega-cluster comprises the Hong Kong East and Hong Kong West clusters, KE mega-cluster comprises the KE and Kowloon Central clusters, KW mega-cluster comprises the KW and New Territories South clusters, NTE mega-cluster comprises the NTE cluster, and NTW mega-cluster comprises the New Territories North cluster.

| Mega-cluster | No. of nurses as at 28.2.02 | Ratio per effective population (per 1000 population) |
|---------------------|--|---|
| HK | 4 672 | 3.04 |
| KE | 4 610 | 2.97 |
| KW | 4 953 | 2.70 |
| NTE | 3 236 | 2.65 |
| NTW | 2 233 | 2.64 |
| Total | 19 704 | 2.82 |

| Mega-cluster | No. of allied health staff as at 28.2.02 | Ratio per effective population (per 1000 population) |
|---------------------|---|---|
| HK | 1 221 | 0.80 |
| KE | 1 143 | 0.74 |
| KW | 984 | 0.54 |
| NTE | 746 | 0.61 |
| NTW | 458 | 0.54 |
| Total | 4 552 | 0.65 |

- (b) The median waiting time for first appointment for specialist outpatient (SOP) service in the five mega-clusters by different specialties for the period April to December 2001 are shown below:

| Mega-cluster | Waiting time in weeks | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | Oncology | Gynaecology | Medicine | Obstetrics | Ophthalmology | Paediatrics | Surgery |
| HK | <1 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| KE | <1 | 4 | 13 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 4 |
| KW | <1 | 4 | 9 | 1 | <1 | 1 | 8 |
| NTE | <1 | 5 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| NTW | <1 | 4 | 14 | 1 | 2 | 14 | 15 |
| Overall | <1 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 |

Public hospital services are organized on a cluster basis to enable better collaboration and networking of services in order to enhance operational and management efficiency. Historically, there are more hospitals located in Hong Kong Island and the Kowloon Peninsula than the New Territories. On the other hand, psychiatric beds are concentrated in the KW and NTW mega-clusters. Such mismatch has resulted in cross-cluster provision of public hospital services. The type and complexity of cases handled by hospitals in each mega-cluster are different. Besides, quaternary and certain highly specialized tertiary services are provided by only a few hospitals in the territory. All these contribute to the variation in the average unit cost in the provision of various health care services among the clusters.

The average unit cost of SOP attendance for 2000-01 by mega-cluster are as follows:

| Mega-cluster | Average unit cost of SOP attendance (\$) | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-----|--------------|
| | HK | KE | KW | NTE | NTW | HA Overall |
| Medicine | 1,297 | 1,249 | 1,086 | 1,203 | 999 | 1,184 |
| Surgery | 816 | 788 | 750 | 771 | 680 | 773 |
| Obstetrics & Gynaecology | 660 | 655 | 519 | 541 | 693 | 607 |
| Paediatrics | 995 | 863 | 834 | 755 | 804 | 860 |
| Radiotherapy & Oncology | 704 | 1,030 | NA* | 1,188 | 909 | 944 |
| Ophthalmology | 435 | 425 | 275 | 429 | 328 | 393 |

NA* - Due to the relatively low activity level of the radiotherapy & oncology services in the KW mega-cluster, no separate costing figure is available.

HA's information system does not collate information on the average cost of SOP service per patient.

- (c) The specialties of SOP services with the longest and shortest median waiting time in the respective mega-clusters for the period April to December 2001 are listed below.

| Mega-cluster | Specialty with the shortest median waiting time | Specialty with the longest median waiting time |
|--------------|---|--|
| HK | Oncology | Surgery |
| KE | Oncology | Medicine |
| KW | Oncology & Ophtalmology | Medicine |
| NTE | Oncology | Medicine |
| NTW | Oncology | Surgery |

HA's information system does not collate information on waiting time of the SOP service by disease type, and non-urgent operations by disease type or by specialty.

- (d) The number of general beds, mentally ill beds, geriatric day places, psychiatric day places, community nurses and community psychiatric nurses in each of the five mega-clusters is as follows:

| Mega-cluster | No. of beds As at 31.3.02 (estimate) | | PDP as at 31.3.02 (estimate) | GDP as at 31.3.02 (estimate) | CN as at 28.2.02 | CPN as at 28.2.02 |
|--------------|--|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| | General | Mentally-ill | | | | |
| HK | 5 288 | 704 | 163 | 122 | 80 | 18 |
| KE | 5 070 | 181 | 178 | 125 | 97 | 14 |
| KW | 5 319 | 1 534 | 209 | 150 | 101 | 29 |
| NTE | 3 203 | 594 | 85 | 80 | 43 | 12 |
| NTW | 1 595 | 1 883 | 44 | 50 | 36 | 17 |
| Total | 20 475 | 4 896 | 679 | 527 | 357 | 90 |

Note : PDP - Psychiatric Day Place
GDP - Geriatric Day Place
CN - Community Nurse
CPN - Community Psychiatric Nurse

The ratios of general beds, mentally ill beds, geriatric day places, psychiatric day places, community nurses and community psychiatric nurses to the population in each mega-cluster are shown below:

Ratio per effective population

| Mega-cluster | No. of beds per 1 000 population as at 31.3.02 (estimate) | | PDP per 100 000 population as at 31.3.02 (estimate) | GDP per 100 000 population [@] as at 31.3.02 (estimate) | CNS per 100 000 population as at 28.2.02 | CPN per 100 000 population as at 28.2.02 |
|--------------|--|--------------|---|--|---|---|
| | General | Mentally-ill | | | | |
| HK | 3.4 | 0.5 | 10.6 | 69.4 | 5.2 | 1.2 |
| KE | 3.3 | 0.1 | 11.5 | 61.9 | 6.2 | 0.9 |
| KW | 2.9 | 0.8 | 11.4 | 70.1 | 5.5 | 1.6 |
| NTE | 2.6 | 0.5 | 7.0 | 68.3 | 3.5 | 1.0 |
| NTW | 1.9 | 2.2 | 5.2 | 70.5 | 4.2 | 2.0 |
| Total | 2.9 | 0.7 | 9.7 | 67.6 | 5.1 | 1.3 |

[@] per 100 000 effective population aged 65 or above.

The average unit cost of HA's in-patient, day patient and community services for 2000-01 by mega-cluster is shown as follows:

| Mega-cluster | HK | KE | KW | NTE | NTW | HA Overall |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Cost per In-patient Discharge and Death (\$) | | | | | | |
| General beds | 16,873 | 17,055 | 14,719 | 16,813 | 13,343 | 15,985 |
| Psychiatric beds | 85,662 | 149,266 | 138,090 | 103,463 | 220,916 | 136,042 |
| Cost per Home Visit (\$) | | | | | | |
| Community Nursing Services | 371 | 361 | 371 | 380 | 197 | 346 |
| Community Psychiatric Nursing Services | 937 | 1,105 | 1,140 | 1,326 | 878 | 1,041 |
| Cost per Day Hospital Attendance (\$) | | | | | | |
| Psychiatric Day Hospital | 738 | 1,006 | 911 | 1,090 | 714 | 893 |
| Geriatric Day Hospital | 1,367 | 1,248 | 1,851 | 1,462 | 1,601 | 1,513 |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB040

Question Serial No.

0151

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

Please state the number of infirmary beds, the waiting time, the number of in-patients every year and the cost by hospital

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The number of infirmary beds as at 31 March 2001 and infirmary in-patients admitted in public hospitals in 2000-01, as well as the average unit cost per patient day for providing infirmary service in 2000-01 by public hospital are listed below:

| Hospitals | No. of Infirmery Beds (position at 31.3.2001) | No. of Infirmery In-patients (position as at 31.3.2001) | Cost of Infirmery In-patient Service (per patient day) |
|---|--|--|---|
| Tung Wah Hospital | 143 | 124 | 853 |
| Fung Yiu King Hospital | 80 | 62 | 691 |
| Grantham Hospital | 50 | 45 | 1,131 |
| Ruttonjee & Tang Shiu Kin Hospitals | 156 | 110 | 1,096 |
| Tung Wah Eastern Hospital | 12 | 11 | 1,304 |
| Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital | 90 | 82 | 2,060 |
| St. John Hospital | 53 | 49 | 1,073 |
| Cheshire Home, Chung Hom Kok | 240 | 215 | 881 |
| Wong Chuk Hang Hospital | 200 | 181 | 1,288 |
| Kowloon Hospital | 122 | 111 | 1,099 |
| Wong Tai Sin Hospital | 508 | 425 | 987 |
| Caritas Medical Centre | 40 | 40 | 734 |
| Yan Chai Hospital | 188 | 181 | 1,124 |
| Cheshire Home, Shatin | 146 | 125 | 715 |
| Shatin Hospital | 120 | 105 | 1,240 |
| Pok Oi Hospital | 50* (suspended beds) | -- | -- |
| Tai Po Hospital | 357 | 326 | 887 |
| Total | 2 555 | 2 192 | |
| Plus: total infirmery inpatient discharge and death during 1.4.2000- 30.3.2001 | | 6 109 | |
| Total number of infirmery inpatient admitted in 2000-01 | | 8 301 | |

* These beds have been temporarily suspended due to the redevelopment of the Pok Oi Hospital.

The variation in the costs of running infirmery beds among hospitals is due to factors such as the medical conditions and care needs of patients, as well as different mix of services, organisation of service delivery, organisation of clinical departments, manpower deployment, infrastructure set up and other associated service roles of individual hospitals. That apart, infirmery services of some hospitals are merged with the convalescent and rehabilitation services, thus resulting in comparatively higher unit operating cost. The exceptionally high unit cost in respect of the Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital is due to the launching of a pilot programme to divert patients to infirmery wards at the early stage of their convalescence.

Some infirmery patients are admitted to public hospitals through the Central Infirmery Waiting List (CIWL) and the mean waiting

time for the admitted CIWL applicants was 31 months as at end March 2001. Other infirmary patients are transferred from Hospital Authority's general and acute wards. Usually, patients at general and acute wards whose health status has progressed to the infirmary status will be immediately transferred to infirmary wards. As such, the issue of waiting time for infirmary service does not arise for this group of patients.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB041

Question Serial No.

0152

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

The cost per home visit by community psychiatric nurses is \$1,012, which is much higher than the \$328 by community nurses. What are the reasons? Please set out respectively the establishments, emoluments and other cost items of these two types of nurses.

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

Over 90% of the cost of the Community Nursing Service (CNS) and Community Psychiatric Nursing Service (CPNS) is staff cost, of which the nursing staff cost is the major component. The difference in the unit costs between CNS and CPNS can be attributed to the different skill mix required and the different clientele of the two services.

The number of community nurses and community psychiatric nurses as at March 2002 and their corresponding staff mix are as follows :

| | Community Nurses (General) | Community Nurses (Psychiatric) |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Total | 357 | 90 |
| Of which: | | |
| Nursing Officers | 24 | 13 |
| Registered Nurses | 177 | 60 |
| Enrolled Nurses | 156 | 17 |

Generally speaking, the conditions of patients who require CPNS are more complex. As such, 81% of the staff in respect of CPNS are Nursing Officers and Registered Nurses, and only 19% are Enrolled Nurses. On the other hand, 44% of the CNS staff are Enrolled Nurses, thus resulting in a lower staff cost for CNS.

The services provided by CNS mainly focus on general nursing care. In contrast, the services provided by Community Psychiatric Nurses, which include counselling, psycho-education, community orientation and crisis intervention, are more time-consuming. To illustrate, in 2001-02, the average number of home visits conducted by a community nurse is about 1 905 per year, while that for a community psychiatric nurse is 589 per year.

Signature _____
Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh
Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare
Date 21 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

HWB042

Question Serial No.

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

0153

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : What is the amount of reserve kept by the Hospital Authority? Do the hospitals under the HA keep their own reserves? If yes, what are the respective amounts?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-Kwong

Reply :

The reserves of the Hospital Authority (HA) are maintained by the HA Head Office centrally. As at 31 March 2001, HA's general reserves amounted to \$1.1 billion.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh _____

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare _____

Date March 2002 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03 Question Serial No.
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

What are the resources allocated to the Samaritan Fund in 2002/03? What is the number of financial assistance cases under various service categories and what is the amount of provision? Among the categories of privately purchased items, what are the numbers of various types of appliances and drugs under the home use equipment, appliances and consumables category and the drugs category respectively in the past three years?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The Samaritan Fund is primarily funded by donations from charitable organisations, Government's designated donation (at \$2 million per annum for ten years), and reimbursements from the Government to cover fees for privately purchased medical items (PPMI) provided to the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients. Of the \$40M projected income of the Samaritan Fund for 2001-02, \$25M is reimbursement from the Government for the CSSA cases, \$2 million is from Government's designated donation, while the remaining \$13M is mainly from donations from charitable organisations. The Hospital Authority expects to receive donations of similar order in 2002-03. The amount of reimbursement from the Government would depend on the actual number of privately purchased medical items provided to the CSSA recipients in 2002-03.

On the assumption that the pattern of expenditure in 2002-03 will be broadly similar to that of 2001-02, the estimated number of cases and the related

expenditure supported by the Samaritan Fund in 2002-03, broken down by major PPMI categories, are listed below.

| <u>Items</u> | No. of cases | Amount \$ Million |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Cardiac Pacemakers | 270 | 9.3 |
| Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty and other consumables for interventional cardiology | 880 | 24.7 |
| Intraocular Lens | 581 | 0.9 |
| Home use equipment, appliances and consumables | 742 | 1.3 |
| Drugs | 49 | 1.6 |
| Gamma knife surgeries in private hospital | 40 | 3.4 |
| Cost for harvesting bone marrow in foreign countries | 5 | 0.4 |
| Myoelectric prosthesis/ custom-made prosthesis / appliances for prosthetic and orthotic services, physiotherapy and occupational therapy services | 301 | 1.4 |
| Total number of cases and related expenditure | 2 868 | 43.0 |

The amount of home use equipment, appliance and consumable; and drugs purchased by HA on behalf of patients in the past three years is as follows:

| | 1998-99 \$ Million | 1999-2000 \$ Million | 2000-01 \$ Million |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Home use equipment, appliance and consumables | 1.3 | 2.3 | 3.6 |
| Drugs | 1.0 | 1.6 | 2.8 |

* Apart from items supported by the Samaritan Fund, the above figures also include items paid by patients.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 21 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB044

Question Serial No.

0155

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

- (a) For the year 2002-03, the number of beds and day places will be increased by 366 and 80 respectively. Please list the hospitals and specialist clinics where the number of beds and day places will be increased.
- (b) How much is the financial provision for the employment of 1 000 additional care assistants for the year 2002-03? What is the number of patients to be served by them? Please list the hospitals and specialist clinics which will be funded for this purpose.

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The details of new beds and day hospital places to be opened in 2002-03 are given below :

I. In-patient Beds

| Hospital | Care type | Number of new beds |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| United Christian Hospital | General | 91 |
| North District Hospital | General | 4 |
| Tuen Mun Hospital | General | 9 |
| Pok Oi Hospital - Tin Ka Ping Centre | Infirmery | 100 |
| Kowloon Hospital | Mentally Ill | 162 |
| Total : | | 366 |

II. Day Hospital Places

| Hospital | Type | Number of new places |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| North District Hospital | Geriatric | 40 |
| North District Hospital | Psychiatric | 40 |
| Total : | | 80 |

- (b) The financial provision for the employment of 1000 care assistants in 2002-03 is \$120 million. The 1 000 care assistants will be deployed to 40 public hospitals to strengthen the extended care services provided to patients of some 7 000 extended care beds in the Hospital Authority.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 20 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB045

Question Serial No.

0156

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Will the hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres be set up within the hospitals? If so, please provide the names of the hospitals and specialist departments to which such centres are attached. What are the advantages of providing this kind of service at hospitals? Will health care personnel render support to these centres?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

Out of the ten hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres to be established by the Hospital Authority (HA), five will be hospital-affiliated while the remaining ones will be operated in general outpatient clinics (GOPCs). Each of them will provide its services through telephone hotline, telephone counselling and provision of smoking cessation sessions.

The hospital-affiliated programmes will be implemented at Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, Northern District Hospital and Tuen Mun Hospital.

International research clearly demonstrates that patients, who are at the same time smokers, are receptive to smoking cessation advice from doctors when the former are receiving medical care in a hospital setting. Hospitalized patients may be more motivated to make a "quit" attempt because the illness resulting in hospitalization may have been caused or exacerbated by smoking, highlighting the patients vulnerable to health risk habit. There are overseas studies showing that augmented smoking cessation intervention provided for hospitalized patients could

increase their cessation rate by about 30%. In addition, given the volume of patients attending the five above-mentioned hospitals, it is believed that doctors are more likely to capture a larger number of patients as prospective quitters, who could then be referred directly to the hospital-based smoking cessation centres for prompt follow ups.

The programmes will be supported by medical and nursing staff, who will proactively provide quit smoking advice to patients and, if deemed appropriate, refer cases to the smoking cessation centres for smoking counselling service.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB046

Question Serial No.

0160

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

What is the rate of increase of the cost of specialist outpatient service, general class bed and psychiatric bed for the past three years?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

The unit cost and the corresponding rate of increase of the cost of specialist outpatient (SOP), general in-patient and psychiatric in-patient services for the years 1999-2000 to 2001-02 are as follows:

| | 1999-2000 | 2000-01 (% increase over the previous year) | 2001-02 Estimate (% increase over the previous year) |
|--|-----------|--|--|
| Cost per SOP attendance | \$638 | \$661 (3.6%) | \$684 (3.5%) |
| Cost per general in-patient discharge and death (including day patients) | \$16,373 | \$15,985 (-2.4%) | \$16,341 (2.2%) |
| Cost per psychiatric in-patient discharge and death (including day patients) | \$145,844 | \$136,042 (-6.7%) | \$140,448 (3.2%) |

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 20 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB047

Question Serial No.

0204

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

The number of beds in psychiatric hospitals has reduced by 378 from 5 274 in 2001 to 4 896 in 2002. Would the Hospital Authority answer the following questions:

- (1) What are the average numbers of beds and patients in every ward of the psychiatric hospitals? For Castle Peak Hospital and Kwai Chung Hospital, what are the respective numbers of beds, patients and nurses per ward?
- (2) What is the number of cases in which patients have successfully secured a transfer to psychiatric day hospitals and halfway houses in the past five years? What is the number of unsuccessful cases and the reasons for the failure of such cases?
- (3) In what way will the Hospital Authority address the overcrowding problem in each ward, and what are the amounts of resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Micheal

Reply :

- (1) The average in-patient beds per ward and the daily average of in-patients per ward in the public hospitals are as follows:

| Hospitals | Average in-patient beds per ward (as at March 2002) | Daily average of in-patients per ward (from April to December 2001) |
|--|--|--|
| Castle Peak Hospital | 44.5 | 37.8 |
| Kwai Chung Hospital | 49.5 | 39.0 |
| Kowloon Hospital | 30.2 | 24.6 |
| Prince of Wales Hospital | 34.0 | 32.0 |
| Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital | 33.9 | 29.7 |
| Queen Mary Hospital | 31.3 | 24.5 |
| Shatin Hospital | 44.0 | 32.3 |
| Tuen Mun Hospital | 48.0 | 34.1 |
| Tai Po Hospital | 30.6 | 20.6 |
| United Christian Hospital | 30.0 | 28.7 |

The number of nurses in individual wards may vary with the size of the ward, the conditions of patients, and the nature of the services provided. The number of nurses per ward in Castle Peak Hospital ranges between 14 – 27 while that for Kwai Chung Hospital ranges between 11 – 27.

- (2) In the past five years, the number of in-patients successfully discharged to halfway houses, and the number of in-patients discharged and referred to psychiatric day hospitals for further medical and rehabilitation services are as follows:

| Year | No. of patients referred to psychiatric day hospitals | No. of in-patient discharged to halfway houses |
|-------------|--|---|
| 1997 | 2 186 | 206 |
| 1998 | 1 591 | 348 |
| 1999 | 2 359 | 340 |
| 2000 | 2 866 | 391 |
| 2001 | 2 909 | 465 |

All discharged patients who require further medical and rehabilitation services from psychiatric day hospitals will be arranged promptly. The question of unsuccessful referral does not arise. For patients referred to halfway houses, the admission application will be processed through the Social Welfare Department's Central Referral System for Rehabilitation Services. The System only started capturing statistics on unsuccessful admissions in 2000. There were 628 and 525 cases of unsuccessful admissions in 2000 and 2001 respectively. The main reasons for unsuccessful referral include refusal on the part of the patient to accept placement on the grounds of the inconvenient

location of the halfway house offered for placement, and the deterioration in health conditions of patients while waiting for placement.

- (3) The estimated average in-patient occupancy rate of psychiatric beds in 2000-01 is 82.8%. However, there may be temporary fluctuation in occupancy rate during the year in which case more patients may be admitted to a particular ward. Should this eventuate, patients in the wards will be assessed for their suitability for transfer to other wards. Also, the hospitals concerned will internally re-deploy more resources, especially nursing staff, to help relieve the workload of staff at these wards.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

HWB048

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Question Serial No.

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

0209

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

Attendances per psychiatric day place increase from 252.6 in 2001 to 261.1 in 2002. How does the Hospital Authority plan to overspill the high utilization rate of psychiatric day hospital service?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

The Hospital Authority will provide 40 additional psychiatric day places in 2002-03. The total number of psychiatric day places will increase from 679 in 2001-02 to 719 in 2002-03, the total number of attendances will increase from 177 300 in 2001-02 to 183 500 in 2002-03, and the attendances per psychiatric day place will decrease from 261.1 in 2001-02 to 255.2 in 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____

March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

The number of home visits by community psychiatric nurses surges from 48 365 to 53 000 in 2002 and the number of outreach services attendances by Community Psychiatric Team even increases by 6 673. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of these services, I would like to know:

- (1) What are the respective numbers of new admissions and old cases for patients receiving community psychiatric services in each of the past five years?
- (2) The Hospital Authority will only employ 5 additional community psychiatric nurses in 2002. Under such circumstances, what are the average numbers of weekly home visits made by each community psychiatric nurse before and after the employment of additional nurses?
- (3) For patients receiving community psychiatric services, what are the respective numbers in each of the past five years and the total number of those who suffered a relapse of mental illness so that they have to be admitted to hospitals?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

- (1) The number of old and new cases receiving community psychiatric nursing service in the past five years is listed below:

| | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-00 | 2000-01 | 2001-02 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Average number of new cases per month | 201 | 206 | 276 | 317 | 370 |
| Average number of old cases per month | 2 855 | 3 070 | 3 415 | 3 842 | 4 910 |

- (2) The average weekly home visits paid by a community psychiatric nurse in 2000-01 is 10.9 per nurse per week, while the estimated weekly average for 2001-02 is 11.3.
- (3) The number of cases served by community psychiatric nurses in the past five years is listed below:

| | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-00 | 2000-01 | 2001-02 (estimate) |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| Number of cases served by community psychiatric nurses | 4 721 | 5 120 | 6 374 | 7 074 | 7 630 |

The information system of the Hospital Authority does not collate readmission statistics by type of carer. As such, statistics on readmission to psychiatric hospitals of the mentally ill patients under the care of community psychiatric nurses are not readily available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB050

Question Serial No.

0250

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 (SFS) Scheme' which helps Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients secure employment, would the Administration inform us:

- (a) the annual total expenditure the Government spent on the Scheme in the past two years?
- (b) the number of participants in the Scheme for the past two years, how many of them are successfully employed, and how many drop out of the Scheme?
- (c) the Government's expenditure on each participant?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

- (a) The annual total expenditure on the SFS Scheme in the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 was \$24.4m and \$55.2m respectively.
- (b) The SFS Scheme has been implemented since June 1999. As at 31 January 2002, on a cumulative basis, 69 406 participants have enrolled in the Scheme, 8 935 (13%) of them have been successfully employed while 30 885 (44%) have dropped out of the Scheme.
- (c) Based on the actual expenditure in 2000-01 and the revised estimate in 2001-02, the average cost spent on each SFS participant is about \$1,150 per year. However, it should be noted that the duration of service for each participant under the Scheme varies significantly.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB051

Question Serial No.

0251

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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) What was the respective government expenditure on “ Opportunities for the Elderly Project” and Healthy Ageing Campaign last year? What services are provided on these two projects? What is the outcome?
 - (b) Please state the current estimated number of demented elders in Hong Kong. During the past two years, what services were provided for the demented elderly and what was the annual expenditure for these two years?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

- Reply :
- (a) The Opportunities for the Elderly Project is a three year project with an allocation of \$11m from the Lotteries Fund for 1999 to end of 2001. Social Welfare Department has secured an additional grant of \$4.04m from the Lotteries Fund to extend the project for one more year. Under the Project, grants are provided to community organisations to organise innovative activities, including continuous learning, community participation, senior volunteerism and inter-generational activities to promote the sense of worthiness among elders. For the year 2001-02, financial subsidy of \$2.8m was granted under the Project to various organisations to carry out 318 activities, benefiting over 150 000 elderly participants. According to the findings of an evaluation study conducted in 2001, the satisfaction

level of the programmes in achieving project objectives is over 90%.

The Healthy Ageing Campaign is a three-year project launched by the Elderly Commission from 2001 to promote the physical and psychosocial well-being of elders. The Campaign is supported by a grant of \$21m from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust (HKJCCT). The Campaign is run on two fronts: a central public education and publicity programme, and a Community Partnership Scheme (CPS). In respect of the former, expenditure in 2001-02 includes approximately \$1.1m from the Health and Welfare Bureau for a central public education and publicity programme, comprising a Healthy Ageing Convention TVAPI, a Healthy Ageing promotional kit, a web-based Healthy Ageing Resource Centre, and other publicity items. In respect of the latter, a total of 42 projects under the CPS involving \$6m have been granted under the first round in 2001 to encourage the participation of the community in the promotion of healthy ageing. This was supported by the HKJCCT grant. The effectiveness of the programmes under the Campaign will be assessed through surveys on the publicity items and evaluation in the individual CPS projects. In addition, a central evaluation mechanism will also be developed to assess the overall effectiveness of the CPS in promoting healthy ageing.

- (b) A survey conducted by the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1998 shows that the prevalence of moderate to severe dementia in elders aged 65 or above is 4% in Hong Kong. If mild demented elders are included, the estimated rate of dementia in Hong Kong is about 10%.

In the past two years, we have allocated Dementia Supplement to subvented residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) to provide special care and training to elders assessed to be suffering from dementia. In this connection, \$15.62m was allocated to 52 RCHEs in 2000-01 and \$14.24m was allocated to 66 RCHEs in 2001-02. In addition, Lotteries Fund grant of \$21.36m was allocated to six dementia units in RCHEs, providing a total of 144 residential places, and \$20.97m was allocated to four day care centres for demented elders, providing 80 day care places, on a pilot basis for three years from April

1999 to March 2002, to cater for the special care needs of the demented elders.

Apart from these special provisions, elders suffering from dementia meeting the eligibility criteria of respective services could be admitted for residential care in the existing RCHEs and nursing homes. Besides, all the existing day care centres for the elderly (D/E) also provide care services for demented elders.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB052

Question Serial No.

0252

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 the past two years, the enrolment rate of Day Care Centre for the Elderly has either reached or exceeded 110%, and is expected to reach 110% again in the coming year. According to the Government's estimation, will the 11 new day care centres be sufficient to meet the demand after coming into operation? If no, will improvement plans be implemented? What is the resource implication?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply : The enrolment rate of Day Care Centre for the Elderly is set at 110% in order to maximise the utilisation of the available day care places as the actual attendance rate of the enrolled elders is normally under 100%. In 2002-03, we will set up 11 day care centres for the elderly providing 280 places. As at March 2002, there are 38 day care centres/units for the elderly providing 1 480 places. In light of the recommendations of the consultancy study on provision of day and community care services, we have mapped out new strategies to provide more integrated day and community care services. Other than setting up new day care centres/units in integrated mode attached to other elderly service units, the existing 139 Home Help teams, 25 Home Care and Meal teams and 18 Enhanced Home and Community Care Services teams also provide care and support services for frail elders. We also have plans to expand Enhanced Home and Community Care Services and re-engineer the Home Help service in 2002-03 to meet the care needs of over 1 845 frail elders. In 2002-03, about \$1.2b out of the \$3.5b for services for elders will be earmarked for day and community services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

26 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB053

Question Serial No.

0253

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : Regarding the prevention of elder abuse, would the Government inform this Committee:

- (1) What is the total expenditure for this last year? What kind of expenditure items are covered?
- (2) What is the estimated number of elders who are abused and required assistance?
- (3) Since March 2001, the Government has funded two non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for launching a three-year pilot project on the prevention of elder abuse. What is the outcome of the project? What is the number of elders receiving such service?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

- (1) Prevention and handling of elder abuse are part and parcel of the services provided by family services centres, medical social service units, support teams/social centres/multi-service centres for the elderly and other support programmes. As such, the resources used and the expenditure specifically relating to elder abuse cannot be separately ascertained. In addition to these programmes, a \$7.7m grant from the Lotteries Fund is currently provided to three NGOs to implement projects designated to combat elder abuse. Moreover, \$0.25m has been earmarked under Social Welfare Department (SWD) to provide training to 400 professionals and 600 non-professionals to increase their awareness of elder abuse and skills in 2002-03.
- (2) Currently there is no central registry of elder abuse cases. Based on information provided by the service

units of SWD and some NGOs, there are around 200 elder abuse cases in the past two years. To gauge the problem more accurately, the Hong Kong Christian Service, one of the NGOs being granted funding support from the Lotteries Fund as mentioned in (1) above will conduct a research on elder abuse in Hong Kong in 2002 which, inter alia, includes the development of a computerised elder abuse registry.

- (3) The two three-year projects supported by the Lotteries Fund are implemented by Haven of Hope Christian Service and Caritas – Hong Kong. The projects provide various types of services including community education, hotline service, volunteer visits, mutual support groups, outreaching, counselling and health promotion programmes to prevent and handle elder abuse. Between April and December 2001, the projects, among other services, have served 37 elder abuse cases, organised 166 community education programmes and conducted 37 volunteer training sessions. The two NGOs will also conduct evaluation of the projects.

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare <hr/> |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB054

Question Serial No.

0262

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : The recurrent subvention for the Hospital Authority as indicated in the 2002-03 Estimates is \$29,880.6M which varies greatly from the budget of the HA. What are the reasons for this? How can the Health and Welfare Bureau ensure that the quality of local medical services will not be compromised?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-Ying

Reply :

The Hospital Authority (HA) projects that there will be a budget deficit for the financial year of 2002/03. The main factors leading to HA's deficit are as follows:

- a) the increase in personal emoluments due to the additional cost required to meet the annual salary increment for about 50% of its existing staff who have not yet reached the maximum salary point in their pay scale;
- b) the low staff turnover which limits HA's ability to replace existing staff with new staff recruited at lower salary point (the turnover rate of HA doctors, nursing staff and allied health staff in 2001-02 was 2.6%, 2.5% and 1.9% respectively);
- c) the intake of clinical staff to cope with the increase in service demand and address the demand problem; and
- d) advances in medical technology has resulted in the introduction of new and expensive drugs for the treatment for conditions which hitherto are not amenable to medication, drugs which have been

shown to be effective in the treatment of HIV-AIDS, as well as drugs that can enhance the effectiveness of treatment, such as anti-psychotic drugs and cancer drugs.

The deficit position of HA is technical in nature and is expected to be temporary. The additional expenditure on annual salary increment will gradually taper off when the majority of HA staff reach the maximum salary point in their pay scale. Through the intake of additional clinical staff to address the demand problem, the provision of health care services in HA can be reengineered to develop the more cost-effective ambulatory and community-based services, thus reducing pressure on in-patient services which are more costly. HA will, in due course, be able to fully realize the productivity gains achieved through its previous investments in “Invest-to-save” projects and the Enhanced Productivity Programme initiatives. HA is also actively exploring alternatives to address the deficit problem, including improving the public and private interface, rationalisation of existing services, implementation of mega-cluster management structure and ongoing review of its Human Resources policies. HA will continue to improve its efficiency and cost effectiveness to ensure its long-term sustainability in delivering medical services within the available resources.

In the interim, HA plans to cover the projected deficit for 2002-03 by its own reserve. The existing level and quality of public medical services will not be affected.

The Health and Welfare Bureau has put in place a monitoring mechanism to oversee the overall performance of the HA and a set of performance indicators has been developed for monitoring the quality of public medical services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB055

Question Serial No

0289

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Head : 708 – Capital Subventions and
Major Systems and Equipment

Subhead : 8001MJ United Christian
Hospital extension

8031MM Kowloon Medical
Rehabilitation Centre

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the progress of the following projects? In what areas will the provision for next year

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply : 8001MJ United Christian Hospital extension

- Signature _____
The majority of the works in this extension project have been completed. The two new
blocks, namely Block 'S' and Block 'P' completed under this project, have been handed over
to the hospital management in 1995 and 1999 respectively.
Post Title _____
Director of Architectural Services

The provision for 2002-03 is mainly for minor refurbishment of Block 'G' (renamed as
Block 'F'), including the upgrading of air-conditioning, electrical and fire service
installations.

8031MM Kowloon Medical Rehabilitation Centre

The project was completed in 1999. The 2002-03 provision is for payment of furniture,
equipment and final accounts.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB056

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative Care

0330

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the savings arising from the transfer of five general out-patient clinics to the Hospital Authority in 2002-03 in terms of number of staff on establishment and expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

The savings in 2002-03 arising from the transfer of five general out-patient clinics to the Hospital Authority is \$36.9M involving 141 posts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB057

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative Care

0332

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : (a) The target appointment time for new dermatology cases was set within 8 weeks for the past two financial years whereas it is set within 12 weeks for 2002-03. What is the rationale for such a change? What is the impact of the change on the utilisation of resources?

(b) The actual figures for the three years in 1999, 2000 and 2001 showed that attendances at specialised dermatology out-patient clinics were between 103 000 and 104 000. What is the reason for the Department of Health to set the planned attendances at 120 000 in 2002 (rising by 15%)? What is the amount of additional resources to be sought by the Department for this purpose?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

(a) In the performance pledge of the Department of Health, the target appointment time for new dermatology cases is set within 3 months (i.e. 12 weeks). While in the past we have managed to attend to new cases within 8 weeks, this may not always be possible in view of the upsurge in the number of new referrals (from 44 000 in 1999 to 50 000 in 2001). We have revised the target appointment time in the Controlling Officer's Report to bring it in line with the Department's performance pledge. There is no change in the utilisation of resources.

(b) The estimated attendances in 2002 have included the additional number of attendances to be served by the new dermatology clinic at the Fanling Primary Health Care Centre. An additional provision of \$11.6M will be provided in 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB058

Question Serial No.

0272

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : It is estimated that an amount of \$302m will be earmarked for the implementation of services for offenders in the financial year 2002-03. In what way will the Administration evaluate the cost-effectiveness of the use of resources in this service?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The effectiveness of the correctional service is mainly measured against the following performance indicators:

| Nature of Service | Major Indicators | Target for 2001-02 | Performance in Apr - Dec 2001 |
|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Probation Order | • Percentage of cases that have satisfactorily completed the orders | 73.4% | 74.7% |
| Community Service Orders | | 92.5% | 91.8% |
| Probation Homes | • (A) Percentage of cases that have satisfactorily completed the residential training • (B) Rate of successful re-integration of discharged cases | (A) 84% (B) 77% | (A) 90.2% (B) 75.7% |
| Probation Hostel | | (A) 70% (B) 96% | (A) 78.2% (B) 92.6% |
| Reformatory School | | (A) 69% (B) 97% | (A) 58.6% (B) 100% |
| Social therapy centres for ex-offenders (non-statutory) | • No. of cases served/ worker/ month (monthly average) | 81 | 95 |

| Nature of Service | Major Indicators | Target for 2001-02 | Performance in Apr - Dec 2001 |
|--|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| service provided by non-governmental organisation (NGO)) | | | |
| Hostels for ex-offenders (non-statutory service provided by NGO) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupancy rate | Male: 90% Female: 80% | Male: 97.1% Female: 81.5% |

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB059

Question Serial No.

0278

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 family problems in some new towns (e.g. Tin Shui Wai, Ma On Shan, Tseung Kwan O) are increasingly serious, there is a growing demand for family services. During 2002-03, will the Government deploy resources to facilitate the future formulation of family policies in accordance with its objectives in order to strengthen the family services required?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : With a view to strengthening planning and co-ordination of welfare services at district level, the Social Welfare Department has, through its re-organisation in September 2001, moved towards a more strategic district-based planning. With the enhanced role of District Social Welfare Officers (DSWOs) and the advisory mechanism of District Co-ordinating Committees on various welfare services, the districts are empowered to map out co-ordinated strategies to proactively address family problems and other welfare needs of the community. For example, in Tin Shui Wai, the DSWO piloted a Neighbourhood Family Service Project to address the needs of single parent families and low income families through strengthening alliance with community service units. So far the project has reached out to some 400 families and succeeded in engaging more than 300 families into the support network. The first Family Services Centre in Tin Shui Wai, in the form of an Integrated Family Services Centre (IFSC), will come into operation in April 2002.

Other initiatives to strengthen family services at the district level include the formation of 14 Family Support Networking Teams, the refocusing of 19 Group Work Units into 20 Family

Support and Resource Centres, and pilot implementation of 15 IFSCs. These moves enable the provision of a range of supportive services to meet the needs of families in a holistic manner. The above new initiatives are mainly achieved through redeployment of existing resources. For 2002-03, the Family and Child Welfare programme has a total provision of \$1.8b.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB060

Question Serial No.

0279

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 view that domestic violence is getting serious in recent years, the Government has provided quite a number of family services. However, counselling services on abusers (especially male abusers) is obviously inadequate. Will the Government consider providing additional resources to strengthen the supporting service in this area? If yes, please give the details.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The Government is fully aware of the need to provide services to the abusers and to men. More efforts and resources have been put to this service area in the recent years. Details are as follows:

Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs):

Five specialised FCPSUs provide counselling and other assistance to child abuse/spouse battering cases including the abusers. Initiative has also been taken to organise treatment groups for male abusers. With encouraging result, this service will be further strengthened. Since the establishment of these units in April 2000, the social work staff excluding supervisory posts has increased from 32 to 60. A further 14 social work staff and three supervisory staff will be in post before end March 2002.

Services of the Clinical Psychologist:

Two additional clinical psychologist posts have been created in 2001-02 to provide psychological service to cases involving domestic violence including the abusers of child abuse and spouse battering.

Refuge Centre for Women:

The fourth refuge newly set up will provide a male hotline and counselling service to male abusers apart from the conventional services rendered to women. It will commence operation by phases starting March 2002.

Family Crisis Support Centre:

This centre, which is the first of its kind, commenced its non-premises-tied services in November 2001 and will commence full operation in March 2002. It provides temporary accommodation and other services to people including men in crisis or under stress.

Publicity Programmes:

Educational materials especially for men have been produced. In the TV drama to be broadcast in 2002 under the publicity campaign "Empowering Families to Face Challenges" which is now under production, some episodes will particularly address the problems of the abusers and men.

Staff Training:

Training on working with perpetrators of child abuse and spouse battering has been provided for social workers in 2001-02. Training in this area will further be strengthened.

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB061

Question Serial No.

0280

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 last year's Policy Address, the Chief Executive told us that the Government would complete a review of the Old Age Allowance (OAA) Scheme in the coming year to provide additional assistance to the elderly who, because of meagre savings and lack of family support, have to depend largely on their OAA for a living. Has the review been completed? If yes, please provide information on it. If no, when will it be completed? Did the Government earmark a sum of money in the 2002-03 financial provision for raising the OAA? If yes, please provide information on it. If no, what is the reason?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : In view of the ageing of our population, the Administration has been considering the provision of financial support for needy elders in the context of the three-pillar model recommended by the World Bank. The review of the OAA Scheme, steered by the Health and Welfare Bureau, has been carried out in that context. The objective is to develop a long-term sustainable safety net that better targets resources at those needy elders to meet their basic needs, and which takes account of local circumstances, especially our low and simple taxation system. How to achieve this objective is a very complex issue that needs to be further examined carefully.

The Government is committed to providing financial protection to our elders. In 2002-03, a total of \$3,976m OAA is provided under Head 170 Social Welfare Department Subhead 180 Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme to assist elders, representing an increase of 7.4% over the revised estimate of 2001-02. Given that the review of the social security schemes for needy elders is still underway, provision for the SSA Scheme in 2002-03 Estimate is made on the basis of the existing scheme and rates.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB062

Question Serial No.

0372

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead : 179
Comprehensive
Social Security
Assistance Scheme

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Under this subhead, the estimated provision on the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme for 2002-03 has seen a \$1.3b increase over that of 2001-02. Would the Administration inform this Council on what basis has it arrived at such a figure?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The \$1.3b increase in CSSA expenditure represents an increase of 8.8% between 2001-02 and 2002-03. The projected increase takes into account recent trends in the changes in individual categories of cases with authorised payment, in particular the growth of unemployment cases. More importantly, CSSA is a non-cash limited scheme which means that we are prepared to provide financial assistance to all eligible applicants. A 8.8% increase is considered to be prudent and reasonable in view of the trends of growth in different categories of CSSA cases.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB063

Question Serial No.

0375

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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) Regarding this programme, please state the reasons for a decrease of 34.8% in the financial provision for the government sector in 2002-03 as compared against the provision in 2001-02.
 - (b) Regarding this programme, what are the 2002-03 estimated expenditure, 2001-02 estimated expenditure and 2000-01 actual expenditure for children and youth centres, integrated teams (ITs), school social work and outreaching social work teams respectively?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

- Reply :
- (a) The decrease in financial provision in government sector is mainly due to the transfer of the Department's school social work service for four secondary schools to non-governmental organisations and the merging of the District's Youth Offices (YOs) into the District's Planning and Co-ordinating Teams (PCT) under the Social Welfare Department re-organisation and the consequential classification of such PCTs as support services with its provision accounted for under other various programmes. In other words, the expenditure on YOs is no longer exclusively accounted for under the Youth Programme.
 - (b) The actual expenditure of 2000-01, the revised estimate of 2001-02 and the draft estimate of 2002-03 are listed below:

| | 2000-01 Actual Expenditure (\$m) | 2001-02 Revised Estimate (\$m) | 2002-03 Draft Estimate (\$m) |
|--|---|---|---|
| Children & Youth Centres (Note 1) | 430.4 | 345.6 | 344.9 |
| Integrated Teams (Note 2) | 268.7 | 377.8 | 452.4 |
| School Social Work (Note 3) | 210.2 | 236.7 | 242.0 |
| Outreaching Social Work | 104.4 | 103.4 | 104.5 |

(Note 1) The decrease in resources is mainly because of resources-pooling for formation of ITs.

(Note 2) The increase in resources is mainly because of the reason given at Note 1 above as well as the injection of new resources for provision of new ITs in newly developed areas and for expediting formation of ITs in developed areas.

(Note 3) The increase in resources is mainly because of the provision of school social work service for new schools.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

0326

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

While the number of mental patients in Hong Kong is increasing, the increase in the number of nurses is unable to meet the demand. Will the authorities concerned inform this Council of the following:

- (1) How much was annually spent by the Government on developing psychiatric service over the past ten years. What percentage do these expenses account for in the recurrent expenditure of the Hospital Authority?
- (2) Concerning the development of psychiatric service, in what ways will the number of staff be increased and the scope of service be expanded in order to meet the demand in the current financial year?
- (3) Will additional provision be made in 2002-03 to increase the number of nurses, allied health staff as well as community psychiatric nurses to provide service for mental patients?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

- (1) The expenditure on psychiatric services accounted for 8.0% (about \$2,259M) and 8.2% (about \$2,363M) of the Hospital Authority's total recurrent expenditure in 1999-2000 and 2000-01 respectively. It is estimated that the percentage will remain at around 8.2% in 2001-02.

The Hospital Authority (HA) started to collate information on breakdown of expenditure by service types in 1999-2000. As such, information on expenditure on psychiatric services prior to 1999-2000 is not available.

(2) & (3)

At present, HA offers a comprehensive range of services to patients with mental illness. The international trend in the provision of care for patients with mental illness has moved away from institutionalisation of care for mentally ill patients and to focus on the development of community psychiatric services. HA has been developing its psychiatric services in line with such international trend.

In 2002-03, an additional provision of 13 doctors, 35 nurses, 9 allied health staff and 35 supporting staff will be deployed to implement the Elderly Suicide Prevention Programme and the Extended-care Patients Intensive Treatment, Early Diversion and Rehabilitation Stepping Stone project. To cope with the increase in demand for acute in-patient and ambulatory services, 162 new psychiatric beds and 40 psychiatric day places will be opened in Kowloon Hospital and North District Hospital respectively in 2002-03. About 3 doctors, 45 nurses and 5 allied health staff will be required for commissioning these new beds and day places. HA will increase the number of community psychiatric nurses from 90 to 97 to enhance the development of community psychiatric services in 2002-03 and will deploy some of the 1 000 care assistants to be employed in 2002-03 to strengthen the extended care services in psychiatric wards. Additional allied health support will also be provided to psychiatric services in the coming fiscal year, including 3 occupational therapists and 3 medical social workers.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

| |
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| HWB065 |
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Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 and 979 Hospital Authority Question Serial No.

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

| |
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| 0331 |
|------|

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : In 2002-03, the Hospital Authority will take over the management of 5 general outpatient clinics under the Department of Health. How much additional manpower and expenditure is required? Where does the resources come from?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

In 2001/02, as a pilot scheme to introduce family medicine, the Hospital Authority (HA) has taken over five general outpatient clinics from the Department of Health. The annual operating cost of these 5 clinics is \$115 million. No clinics will be transferred in 2002/03.

HA has deployed the following staff in the five pilot clinics after the transfer:

- 38 family medicine trainees,
- 5 family medicine specialists,
- 5 nursing officers,
- 12 registered nurses,
- 16 enrolled nurses,
- 20 health care assistants,
- 6 pharmacists,

- 22 dispensers,
- 21 clerks, and
- 20 General Services Assistants.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K YEOH

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB066

Question Serial No.

0405

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 on social security is estimated at \$22,445.5m for 2002-03. In what way will the Government allocate this provision and what is the proportion of allocation?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : A breakdown of the financial provision for 2002-03 for social security is as follows:

| | Amount \$m | Proportion % |
|---|---------------|-----------------|
| Comprehensive social security assistance scheme | 16,000.0 | 71.3 |
| Social security allowance scheme | 5,760.0 | 25.6 |
| Traffic accident victims assistance scheme | 24.2 | 0.1 |
| Criminal and law enforcement injuries compensation | 12.5 | 0.1 |
| Emergency relief | 1.0 | - |
| Personal emoluments | 461.6 | 2.1 |
| General departmental expenses | 132.5 | 0.6 |
| Programme and training expenses including the special job attachment programme | 20.8 | 0.1 |
| Agents' commission and expenses | 4.1 | - |
| Non-recurrent expenses on Intensive Employment Assistance Fund and Grant to Emergency Relief Fund | 28.3 | 0.1 |
| Subvention to Red Cross for distributing relief items | 0.5 | - |
| | 22,445.5 | 100 |

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB067

Question Serial No.

0433

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : According to the "Targets" Section under Programme (1), the number of places provided by the subvented sector far exceeds that of the government sector. However, as shown in the "Financial Provision" section, the amount of resources allocated to the government sector is much more than its counterpart. The Administration has indicated in the paragraphs under "Detail" that the cost figures for the subvented and the private sectors are the net total provision required after taking fee income into account. No direct comparison of costs between the two sectors should therefore be drawn. What is the total provision allocated to the subvented sector before taking fee income into account?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : The estimated net total provision at \$800.4m for the subvented sector in 2002-03 is arrived at after taking into account the estimated fee income at \$19.4m. The resources allocated to the government and subvented sectors under this programme cannot be compared on the basis of the number of services places provided. For example, provision for the government sector includes financial payments under the child care centre fee assistance estimated at \$364.1m in 2002-03. Besides, the difference in the provision between the two sectors is due to the different scope and nature of services provided by them. The Social Welfare Department is the major provider of family services centres. The Department is also the sole provider of child custody and family and child protection services. On the other hand, non-governmental organisations are the major or sole

provider of occasional child care units, foster care places, small group homes, residential homes for children as well as day creches and nurseries which are subvented at 5% of the approved fees only.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB068

Question Serial No.

0434

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : (a) There will be an estimated reduction of 18 non-directorate posts in the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in 2002-03. What are these posts?

(b) There will be an estimated 25 directorate posts in the SWD at 31 March 2002 and 31 March 2003. Please provide the actual number of directorate posts at 31 March 2000 and 31 March 2001.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : (a) The net reduction of 18 non-directorate posts is made up of a number of creations and deletions, involving 53 additional posts to strengthen Special Investigation Teams to detect fraud and to strengthen investigation, offset by the deletion of the following posts:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Closure of Kowloon Kitchen | -10 |
| Closure of Lady Trench Day Nursery | -12 |
| Streamlining of administrative procedures under Enhanced Productivity Programme | -33 |
| Regularisation of staffing requirements in correctional homes due to reduction of capacities | -13 |
| Lapse of funding for time-limited posts provided for training under service performance monitoring | -3 |

-71 posts

No staff redundancy is envisaged as the incumbents are deployed to fill existing vacancies.

(b) As at 31 March 2000 and 31 March 2001, SWD has a permanent establishment of 17 directorate posts including one Administrative Officer Staff Grade A, two Deputy Director of Social Welfare, five Assistant Director of Social Welfare, five Principal Social Work Officer (PSWO), one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (AOSGC), one Assistant Director of Accounting Services, one Principal Executive Officer (PEO) and one Chief Clinical Psychologist. From 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001, there was no change in the permanent establishment of directorate posts. In 2001-02, with the endorsement of SWD re-organisation proposals by the Establishment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee (vide EC (2001-02) 12) and the Finance Committee on 13 June 2001 and 22 June 2001 respectively, the 13 District Social Welfare Officers are upgraded from Chief Social Work Officer to PSWO (D1) level and one PEO (D1) post is created to head the new Human Resource Management Branch. These are offset by deletion of one AOSGC (D2) post and deletion of five PSWO (D1) posts upon the dissolution of the Regional Office tier in SWD's structure. Despite a net increase in directorate posts, the re-organisation exercise has resulted in net recurrent savings of \$3.5m calculated on notional annual salaries at mid-point.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB069

Question Serial No.

0435

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : For 2002-03, the Social Welfare Department will continue its efforts to help able-bodied Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients and other socially disadvantaged groups become more self-reliant through a package of direct services.

- (a) What is the amount of resources to be allocated for the above direct services in 2002-03? What is the difference in resource allocation and services when compared against those of 2001-02?
- (b) What objective measurements are in place to evaluate the effectiveness of the services?
- (c) The estimated number of CSSA cases to be served in 2001-02 is 293 300. How many recipients have left the CSSA net after receiving the direct services? How many people have re-applied for CSSA after leaving the CSSA net? Has the Department set any target on the number of CSSA recipients leaving the CSSA net with the assistance of the above direct services?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

- (a) Provision in 2001-02 and 2002-03 for assisting able-bodied CSSA recipients and other socially disadvantaged groups to become more self-reliant is \$55.2m and \$73.4m respectively, representing an increase in employment assistance of \$18.2m in the coming year. In 2002-03, more direct services will be implemented, namely, to fund the non-governmental organisations to run eight more tailor-made projects under the Intensive Employment Assistance Fund to help participants overcome their work barriers; implement the Ending Exclusion Project specifically designed for single parents to help improve their social well-being and the quality of life for their families; and arrange more Community Work (CW) opportunities by increasing the number of customers served per week from 2 000 to 3 000 with effect from April 2002.
- (b) The primary objective of the Support for Self-reliance (SFS) Scheme is to provide active assistance through the Active Employment Assistance (AEA) and CW programmes to encourage and help unemployed CSSA recipients to rejoin the workforce and move towards self-reliance. The Department has completed an evaluation of the Scheme, which covers the first 18 months of its operation, with the assistance of a research team from the Department of Psychology of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Based on the findings of the Study, the Scheme's effectiveness has been established by the following measurements:

Improving awareness of social responsibilities

- 62% of the respondents agree/strongly agree that the SFS Scheme makes them realise that people should not waste societal resources; and
- 53% of the respondents agree/strongly agree that CW makes them realise that everyone has the responsibility to serve the community.

Improving awareness of need to re-establish self-reliance

60% of the respondents agree/strongly agree that the SFS Scheme makes them understand the importance of self-reliance.

Understanding importance of employment

76% of the respondents agree/strongly agree that having a job is very important to them.

Perceived worth of the SFS Scheme

The Scheme appears to be highly regarded by the CSSA unemployed recipients. The proportion of respondents considering the AEA, CW and enhanced Disregarded Earnings components of the Scheme as worthy of implementing are 60%, 55% and 68% respectively.

The effectiveness of the Scheme can also be reflected by the success rate of its participants' having secured employment. On a cumulative basis (over a period of two and a half years), 13% of the participants of the AEA programme under the SFS Scheme have found a job, compared with the success rate of 1% per year prior to introduction of the Scheme.

- (c) As at the end of January 2002, the total number of active CSSA cases consisting of all categories of recipients including the elderly and the disabled is 243 673. However, only able-bodied CSSA recipients (excluding single parents with children under the age of 15) are required to join the SFS Scheme. Up to the end of January 2002, on a cumulative basis, there were 69 406 able-bodied recipients enrolled in the AEA programme, and 39 820 have de-registered for various reasons including finding a job. According to our administrative records, there were 5 515 re-enrollments in the AEA programme. Of those who have found a job after participating in the AEA programme, 3 567 have left the CSSA net while 5 368 have changed from the "unemployed" to "low earnings" category. Eligibility for CSSA is determined by families' recognised needs and their income and assets. Each family's circumstances vary. It is therefore not realistic for the Department to specify a target of CSSA recipients leaving CSSA to measure the effectiveness of the SFS Scheme.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB070

Question Serial No.

0447

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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) How many residential places are offered by the overnight temporary shelter for young night drifters?
(b) What was the occupancy rate of the shelter last year? Please provide its figure for each month.
(c) Is the occupancy rate low? If yes, what are the reasons?
(d) What is the estimated occupancy rate in 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : (a) At present, there are a total of 38 crisis residential placements in two temporary shelters for young night drifters under government funding.
(b) The overall occupancy rate of the crisis residential services in the first three quarters in 2001 are listed below:

| Month | Occupancy rate (%) |
|------------------|--------------------|
| April | 123.2 |
| May | 101.8 |
| June | 89.8 |
| July | 81.1 |
| August | 113.4 |
| September | 91.1 |
| October | 80.8 |
| November | 84.5 |
| December | 81.8 |

(c) As can be seen from the above, the occupancy rates fluctuated from month to month but generally speaking,

for a contingency service of this nature, the overall utilisation is satisfactory.

- (d) Given the nature of the service, the occupancy rate is not easy to project. However, with the strengthening of 18 integrated teams to provide outreaching services for young night drifters all over the territory since late 2001, the need and hence utilisation of these residential places is expected to increase.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB071

Question Serial No.

0448

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : Regarding the provision of residential training services for offenders in the financial year 2002-03, the costs per resident per month of probation homes, probation hostel, reformatory school, remand home/place of refuge are \$40,084, \$20,546, \$57,345 and \$60,272 respectively. Please provide information on the following:

- (1) the expenditure items (including staff, meals and other expenses) of all residential services for offenders;
- (2) the utilisation rate of each type of residential services and the feasibility of adjusting the capacity of residential training institutions; and
- (3) the scope of downward adjustment on the expenditure incurred.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (1) The breakdown of the estimated unit cost per resident per month (including staff oncost) for the correctional/residential homes in 2002-03 are listed below:

| Nature of the Homes | Personal Emoluments (including staff oncost) (\$) | Meal (\$) | Others (\$) | Total (\$) |
|------------------------------|---|-----------|-------------|------------|
| Probation Homes | 34,846 | 935 | 4,303 | 40,084 |
| Probation Hostel | 18,285 | 763 | 1,498 | 20,546 |
| Reformatory School | 50,864 | 1,153 | 5,328 | 57,345 |
| Remand Home/ Place of Refuge | 53,834 | 942 | 5,496 | 60,272 |

(2) The enrolment rate of the correctional/residential homes in 2002-03 is estimated as follows:

| Nature of the Homes | 2002-03 (Estimate) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Probation Homes | 83% |
| Probation Hostel | 96% |
| Reformatory School | 62% |
| Remand home/Place of Refuge | 58% |

(3) The Department will closely monitor the utilisation and operating cost of the correctional residential service and continue to explore ways to economise and maximise the use of resources.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB072

Question Serial No.

0449

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : For matters requiring special attention in the 2002-03 Estimates of Expenditure, it is stated that the Government will examine strategic options to address the concern about utilisation of urban sites occupied by the correctional homes. Regarding this, please inform us of the current scope and approach of the study and whether the correctional homes will be moved away from urban areas. What are the resources allocated in conducting the study?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : To address concern expressed by the Public Accounts Committee, the Department is examining the feasibility of merging or co-locating our homes. This will have the advantages of greater economy of scale and releasing urban sites occupied by some of these homes for alternative use. The Department has undertaken to keep the Public Accounts Committee and the LegCo Panel on Welfare Services informed of the progress made.

The Department's Corrections Section and Architectural Section are assessing the various aspects of any such proposals and are currently in the process of identifying a suitable site and assessing the feasibility of co-location. The Department does not require additional resources to undertake the study.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB073

Question Serial No.

0454

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead : 180
Social Security
Allowance Scheme

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The estimated provision for Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme for 2002-03 under this Subhead represents an increase of \$364m over the revised estimate for 2001-02 due to an estimated increase in the number of applications in the coming year. Would the Administration inform us the justification for the estimated provision?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The \$364m increase in the provision for SSA represents a growth of 6.7%. The projected increase takes into account recent trends in the overall increase in the number of applications. More importantly, SSA is a non-cash limited scheme which means that we are prepared to provide the allowance to all eligible applicants. A 6.7% increase is considered to be prudent and reasonable in view of the overall increase in the number of applications.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB074

Question Serial No.

0488

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 respective financial and staffing provision for implementing the Understanding the Adolescent Project (UAP) in 2001-02 and 2002-03.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Administration has allocated a provision of \$10.5m and \$28.3m for implementing the UAP for 150 and 304 secondary schools in 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively. The provision is allocated on a lump sum basis to individual non-governmental organisations (NGOs) at \$100,000/school/school year. NGOs operating UAPs are given the flexibility to engage whatever manpower they deem appropriate in running the programme or to purchase suitable service from the Sector.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB075

Question Serial No.

0489

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 list the resources allocated to each integrated team (IT) for young people for 2001-02 and 2002-03. What adjustments and changes in resource allocation and staffing are required for pooling the resources from various youth services to form ITs? What is the approved amount of resources for each new IT in 2002-03 and what is the scope of service of the teams?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : By the end of 2001-02, there are 64 ITs throughout the territory. The notional establishment of a standard IT comprises a team of 18 staff including 11 social worker posts at different ranks and the notional full year cost of an IT is \$6.3m. However, in reality, many ITs are formed through pooling of existing resources, namely children and youth centres, outreaching social work teams and school social work services, and hence the structure and size of individual IT may vary. Upon the implementation of the Lump Sum Grant mode of subventions, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are given the flexibility to deploy their manpower resources to best meet the needs of their targeted customers.

In the 2001 Budget Speech, a total of \$70m has been earmarked for implementing initiatives to help youth at risk, notably through expediting the formation of ITs. A maximum of \$47m is available for allocation to NGOs to implement proposals to expedite formation of ITs in 2002-03. It is certain that two new ITs will be formed from new resources. As we are currently considering proposals from other NGOs, we cannot advise on the exact number of ITs to

be formed in 2002-03 and the exact allocation of new resources to individual ITs.

The new ITs to be formed in 2002-03 will, as other existing ITs do, perform three core service areas, namely children and youth centre service, school social work service and outreaching social work service.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB076

Question Serial No.

0490

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : For outreaching social work, the average caseload per team significantly decreases from 86 in 2000-01 (Actual) to 65 in 2002-03 (Estimate). What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The estimated caseload of 65 for outreaching social work teams for 2002-03 is worked out with reference to the actual caseload of the service for second quarter of 2001-02, which was 65 per team.

The fluctuation in caseload of outreaching social work is understandable as it reflects the actual trends and characteristics of youth-at-risk who are mobile and are hard-to reach.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB077

Question Serial No.

0491

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : As indicated in the Estimate, the Government has co-ordinated the services for youth-at-risk through Local Committees on Services for Young People with additional resources in 2001. Please give a list of all services for youth-at-risk and young night drifters, the number of serving social workers and the youth population in each district.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : Local Committees on Services for Young People have been co-ordinating districts efforts to address the changing needs of youth-at-risk including young night drifters. Programmes and activities organised in 2001-02 include joint programmes, seminars, workshops, groups, volunteer service, etc. covering issues like tackling youth unemployment, enhancing social skills and social awareness of youth, promoting positive life style, building up peer support network, prevention of substance abuse, bullying and violence at school, anti-triad, etc.. These programmes and activities are often conducted with participation from community leaders, the police, school personnel and volunteers for a more comprehensive service network and greater impact.

Upon the implementation of the Lump Sum Grant mode of subventions, non-governmental organisations are given the flexibility to deploy their manpower resources to best meet the needs of their targeted customers. The same principle and flexibility apply to integrated teams (IT) for young people. Since we are moving away from

input control, we do not have ready information on the number of social workers deployed in ITs.

Youth population by District Council districts according to the 2001 Population Census is as follows:

| District | Youth Population (age 6-24) |
|-------------------|--|
| Central & Western | 53 442 |
| Islands | 18 917 |
| Eastern | 138 410 |
| Wan Chai | 30 382 |
| Southern | 69 424 |
| Yau Tsim Mong | 61 708 |
| Sham Shui Po | 80 277 |
| Kowloon City | 83 241 |
| Wong Tai Sin | 104 756 |
| Sai Kung | 86 003 |
| Kwun Tong | 130 701 |
| Tsuen Wan | 64 863 |
| Kwai Tsing | 120 490 |
| Tuen Mun | 147 262 |
| Sha Tin | 173 292 |
| Tai Po | 93 379 |
| North | 88 156 |
| Yuen Long | 128 787 |
| Total | 1 673 490 |

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB078

Question Serial No.

0492

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 compare the caseload on youth served by an
outreaching social worker of the integrated team and that of
the outreaching social work team.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The existing statistical system on the output of integrated
teams does not require non-governmental organisations to
report on the caseload of outreaching services provided by
individual teams. As such, comparison with the caseload of
outreaching social work teams is not available.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB079

Question Serial No.

0493

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : What is the respective number of social workers and other staff in performing school social work and outreaching social work and organising activities of children and youth centres? What is the proportion of resource allocation for each service to the overall resources of the integrated team (IT)?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The notional establishment of a standard IT for young people comprises a team of 18 staff including 11 social worker posts at different ranks. The structure and size of individual IT depends on the resources pooled from existing services, namely children and youth centres, outreaching social work teams and school social work services. Upon the implementation of the Lump Sum Grant mode of subventions, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are given the flexibility to deploy their manpower resources to best meet the needs of their targeted customers. The same principle and flexibility apply to ITs.

NGOs operating ITs would conduct needs assessment of their targeted customers and deploy manpower to best meet the needs identified. Therefore, there is no fixed manpower ratios or resource distribution for the three core service components in ITs. Indeed, if the various service components are operating in a compartmentalised manner with its pre-determined staffing, it would defeat the purpose of service integration.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03 Reply Serial No.
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION HWB080

Head : 186 – Transport Department Subhead (No. & title) : Question Serial No.

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

0455

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Under this programme, it is estimated that in 2002-03, there will be an increase in number of vehicles for rebus scheduled routes and rebus full-day dial-a-ride service, passenger trips for rebus scheduled routes and rebus dial-a-ride service, and number of people with disabilities waiting for scheduled route service. However, there is a 14% drop in estimated provision for transport services for people with disabilities in 2002-03 as compared with 2001-02. What are the reasons for this?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The total expenditure for Rebus operation in 2002-03 is estimated to drop by about 14% when compared that the expenditure in 2001-02. Several capital expenditure items in 2001-02, such as the acquisition of 8 new Rebuses to replace old vehicles, the installation of charging meters and receipt printers on all Rebuses, the expansion of the Kowloon Bay Depot and the construction of the new Tuen Mun Depot, are not required in 2002-03. For 2002-03, we plan to acquire two additional new Rebuses to operate two scheduled route services to meet the passenger demand. Indeed, the total recurrent expenditure for Rebus operation in 2002-03 is forecast to increase by about 3.5% when compared with 2001-02.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 20 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB081

Question Serial No.

0398

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

Programme : (2) Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : Provision for the Health and Welfare Bureau for 2001-02 is \$3.2 million higher than the revised estimate for 2000-01. This is mainly due to the provision for continuing with the Review on Hong Kong's Health Care System. How is the progress? What are the new work objectives for 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. : TANG Siu-tong

Reply : The consultation period for the Consultation Document on Health Care Reform ended on 31 March 2001. During the consultation period, we have attended a total of 152 briefing sessions and received a total of 733 written submissions from members of the public. To gauge public views on various health care financing proposals, we have also commissioned three tracking surveys in May 2000, January 2001 and May 2001 respectively to assess the degree of public acceptance towards different fee levels and different modes of financing.

The results of the consultation, as well as the Administration's proposed way forward, were reported at the LegCo Health Services Panel meeting on 17 July 2001. In general, we observed that there was an undisputed consensus on the need for reform among different sectors of the community. In collaboration with the Department of Health and the Hospital Authority, the Administration is formulating action plans to implement the reform proposals that have received wide support from different sectors of the community, so that the public can see for themselves quickly the tangible benefits of the reform. For reform measures that have received mixed response or require further deliberations, such as the Health Protection Account proposal, we will consult the public again after completion of the detailed studies.

In 2002/03, we will continue our effort to improve the quality of our health care system, e.g., we are drawing up the details of a long-term plan on how to provide the community with a comprehensive, holistic and lifelong health promotion and preventive care programme, and to work on the plan to introduce Chinese medicine into the public health care system.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB082

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

Question Serial No.
0399

Programme : (2) Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Provision for the Health and Welfare Bureau for 2002-03 is \$9.5 million higher than the revised estimate for 2001-02. This is mainly due to the provision for setting up a Research Office to strengthen the Government's research capabilities in health policy matters. What are the establishment and work objectives of the Research Office? Is the Research Office planning to take over the Review on Hong Kong's Health Care System conducted in 2001-02?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply : The purpose of setting up the Research Office is to strengthen the Government's research capabilities in policy matters under the purview of HWB. The goal is to facilitate effective policy formulation through judicious use and systematic application of research evidence, leading ultimately to an overall improvement in the health status and well being of the population. The Research Office will support the HWB, where appropriate, in work in connection with the Healthcare Reform. The Research Office also aims to promote the advancement of knowledge in human health and health services through management of the Health and Health Services Research Fund, and a liaison network with academics and service providers.

The Research Office will deliver on the following agenda:-

- (a) Support policy formulation by researching policy questions and issues.
- (b) Initiate research studies to better inform policy options, such as research into Health Protection Account and Medisage as a method of financing health care and long term care respectively as proposed in the Health Care Reform Consultation Document.
- (c) Develop linkage with local and overseas research institutions.

- (d) Establish clear strategic intent and direction of research and development in the local health care setting.
- (e) Develop thematic priorities to guide and stimulate research of local relevance and importance.

In terms of establishment, the Research Office will consist of a team of seven, headed by a consultant with responsibilities spanning health and social care arena. Other staff will comprise (a) one Principal Medical and Health Officer to render professional support in critical appraisal of scientific literature and designing and participating in research studies. (b) two scientific officers to provide technical support, and (c) three supporting staff to provide administrative and secretarial functions. The Research Office will have an operating budget of \$9.3 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K YEOH

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-

03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB083

Question Serial No.

0408

Head: 149 Government Secretariat :

Subhead(No. & title):

Health and Welfare Bureau

Programme: (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer: Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary: Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

The estimated provision for Women's Interests in 2002-03 will sharply increase by over 60% when compared with 2001-02. Please give details about the programmes related to women's interests, programme objectives, and the allocation of resources for each programme for 2002-03.

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

The provision for 2002-03 is similar to that approved for 2001-02. The relatively large increase of 64.6% over the revised estimates for 2001-02 is mainly due to the fact that the Women's Commission was set up only in January 2001. It needed some time to deliberate and plan its activities. As a result, the expenditure arising from its activities, including public education programmes and the Women's Commission Conference 2002, will be incurred mainly in the 2002-03 financial year. Now that the Women's Commission's work is gathering momentum, more programmes will be launched and expenditure incurred.

Major programme items of the Women's Commission include:

- launching promotional and education programmes to raise general awareness of women-related issues and change deeply entrenched misconceptions about women and men (\$4.87 million);
- conducting research, studies and surveys to identify women's interests, needs and concerns (\$3.70 million);
- collecting sex-disaggregated data for building up a database on women-related statistics (\$1.95 million);
- conducting gender-sensitive training courses for civil servants to facilitate the taking into account of women's perspectives during policy

formulation, the legislative process and the implementation phase (\$1.49 million); and

- maintaining liaison with local women's groups and service agencies, and building up a liaison network with relevant international bodies (\$0.40 million).

Other activities which will be absorbed by the staff of the Policy Bureau include:-

- reviewing services for women and promoting the development of new or improved services;
- promotion of capacity building programmes for women and creation of an enabling environment for women's participation in society; and
- pilot testing "Gender Mainstreaming Checklist" (i.e. incorporation of women's perspectives in the process of policy making) in several policy areas.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | _____ Dr E K YEOH _____ |
| Post Title | _____ SHW _____ |
| Date | _____ 18.3.2002 _____ |

Reply Serial No.

HWB084

Question Serial No.

0402

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

Regarding the services provided by the Hospital Authority as set out in the Estimates for 2002-03, while there is an increase in the cost of services provided to the mentally ill, the cost of in-patient services for the mentally handicapped remains unchanged, and there is a reduction in the cost of the remaining services. What are the reasons for the reduction in cost?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The reduction in the unit costs of services provided by the Hospital Authority for general in-patient, infirmary in-patient, specialist out-patient, Accident & Emergency, community nursing and geriatric day hospital services for 2002-03 is mainly due to the projected increase in service volume, and cost savings achieved through the Hospital Authority's productivity enhancement initiatives.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB085

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

Question Serial No.

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

0403

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

Regarding the operating costs of the Hospital Authority in the year 2002-03, the estimated revenue of \$1,001.8M is more than the estimated revenue of \$951.7M for the year 2001-02. Why?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The income budgets for the year 2001-02 and 2002-03 comprise :

| Type | Budget for 2001-02 \$ Million | Budget for 2002-03 \$ Million |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Medical income | 748.4 | 766.1 |
| Non-medical income | 203.3 | 235.7 |
| Total : | 951.7 | 1,001.8 |

The medical income in 2002-03 is budgeted to increase by 2.37%, which is equivalent to the projected growth in patient volume over 2001-02 under the population-based funding model.

The non-medical income for 2001-02 is budgeted at 0.7% of the baseline gross subvention of the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2001-02, while that for 2002-03 is budgeted at 0.8% of the approved gross subvention of HA in 2001-02.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 21 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB086

Question Serial No.

0400

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

**CONTROLLING OFFICER 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 the Estimates for 2001-02, "the unit costs of in-patient and day patient services per patient discharged" were estimated to be \$18,462 and \$18,320 for 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively. What were the actual unit costs in the two financial years?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

The actual unit cost of in-patient and day patient services per patient discharged for 2000-01 was \$18,130 and the revised estimated unit cost for 2001-02 was \$18,493.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB087

Question Serial No.

0401

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

In the Estimates for 2002-03, ten items including “general”, “mentally ill”, and “accident and emergency attendance” are listed under “Cost of services” (p.404 of Volume 1B). What are the reasons for the increase/decrease in the cost of each of these items?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

The unit costs of psychiatric in-patient, community psychiatric nursing and psychiatric day hospital services for 2002-03 are projected to increase by 5.3%, 1.2% and 1.6% respectively.

The increase in the unit cost of psychiatric in-patient service is mainly due to the provision of additional funding to improve the quality of service to patients. These include the extended-care patients intensive treatment, early diversion and rehabilitation stepping-stone project, and the employment of additional care assistants to strengthen the provision of extended care services to patients. The discharge of some 360 long-stay patients upon the conversion of Lai Chi Kok Hospital into a long-stay care home managed by Social Welfare Department, coupled with the opening of 162 new acute psychiatric beds to serve acute patients which are more expensive to operate than long-stay psychiatric beds, tend to increase the operating cost for psychiatric in-patients beds.

The slight increase in the unit cost of community psychiatric nursing service is mainly due to the addition of seven community psychiatric nurses (CPNs) in 2002-03 and the fact that it will take some time before the new CPNs can attain the normal output level of CPNs.

The slight increase in the unit cost of psychiatric day hospital service is mainly due to the addition of 40 psychiatric day places in 2002-03 and the low pick-up rate of the new day places at the initial stage of commissioning.

The decrease in unit costs of general in-patient, infirmary in-patient, specialist out-patient, Accident & Emergency, community nursing and geriatric day hospital services is mainly due to the projected increase in service volume and the cost savings achieved through the Hospital Authority's productivity enhancement initiatives.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | _____ Dr E K Yeoh _____ |
| Post Title | _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare _____ |
| Date | _____ 19 March 2002 _____ |

Reply Serial No.

HWB088

Question Serial No.

0499

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 Social Welfare Department set up a Family Crisis Support Centre to strengthen professional support in 2001-02. The estimated total number of family caseworkers in the government and subvented sectors for 2001-02 and 2002-03 is 726, seeing a slight decrease over the actual total number of family caseworkers (728) in 2000-01. What is the reason for this decrease? Without additional staffing, the estimated caseload of family caseworkers in 2002-03 is 87 172, representing an increase of 695 over the actual number of cases served in 2001-02. Nevertheless, there is a slight decrease in the caseload per worker. What is the reason behind such a decrease?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : The reduction of two family caseworkers is a result of the deletion of five family caseworker posts in 2001-02 in the course of re-organisation of the Social Welfare Department, offset by an increase of three family caseworker posts in the subvented sector with the setting up of the Integrated Services Project at Tung Chung Areas 30 and 31.

The numbers of 86 477 and 87 172 (increase of 695) are the aggregates of the number of cases estimated to be handled in 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively in the government and subvented sectors. These comprise, for example, cases carried forward from the previous financial year that still require service as well as all new and re-activated cases received in the current year. The actual caseload per worker is smaller, as incoming new cases are offset by cases closed

in the course of the year, and may be further improved through enhanced caseload management. The respective caseloads per worker i.e. 72 for the government sector in 2001-02 and 2002-03 and 68 in 2001-02 and 67 in 2002-03 for the subvented sector, are calculated by dividing the number of projected active cases at the end of each month by the number of caseworkers in post for the corresponding period. A slight decrease (in fact in decimal rounded up to 1) in caseload per worker in the subvented sector is due to the full year effect of the provision of three additional family caseworkers.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB089

Question Serial No.

0500

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 the key performance measures in respect of family and child welfare services, it is stated in the "Targets" section that there were 30 child custody workers in the government sector for 2000-01 (actual). It is stated in the "Indicators" section that 924 child custody supervision cases were served and the number of child custody supervision cases per worker was 16. Why is it "16" instead of "31"? Regarding the number of child custody supervision cases per worker for 2002-03 (Estimate), why is it "17" instead of "30"?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : The numbers of 924 and 943 are the aggregates of the number of supervision cases handled or estimated to be handled in 2000-01 and 2002-03 respectively. These comprise, 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 respective numbers of supervision cases per worker in 2000-01 and 2002-03, i.e. 16 and 17, are calculated by dividing the number of active supervision cases at the end of each month by the number of child custody workers in post for the corresponding period (actual or projected).

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB090

Question Serial No.

0555

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : For 2001-02, how many people are served by the probation services, residential services, the community service order scheme, counselling, residential services and community-based programmes for ex-offenders, the community support service scheme and the young offender assessment panel? What are the average resources allocated to individual recipient of each type of service every year?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In the first three quarters of 2001-02, the accumulated number of service recipients and the estimated unit cost of individual services are shown below:

| Service | Accumulated No. of monthly active case attendance | Accumulated No. of monthly active enrolment | Accumulated No. of monthly programme / group attendance | Unit Cost (Estimate) (\$) |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|
| Probation | 38 740 | - | - | 1,085 |
| Community Service Orders | 12 541 | - | - | 1,120 |
| Community Support Service Scheme | - | - | 7 288 | 586 |
| Young Offender Assessment Panel | 395 | - | - | 5,139 |
| Correctional/ Residential Homes: | | | | |
| • Probation Homes | - | 963 | - | 29,395 |
| • Probation Hostel | - | 519 | - | 14,308 |
| • Reformatory School | - | 367 | - | 45,786 |
| • Remand Home/ Places of Refuge | - | 948 | - | 43,621 |

| Service | Accumulated No. of monthly active case attendance | Accumulated No. of monthly active enrolment | Accumulated No. of monthly programme / group attendance | Unit Cost (Estimate) (\$) |
|---|---|---|---|---------------------------|
| Services for Ex-offenders: • Hostels | - | 980 | - | 5,418 |
| Social Therapy Centres | 36 842 | - | - | 726 |
| Community-based Programmes | - | - | 42 012 | 146 |

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB091

Question Serial No.

0556

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : Regarding the reduction in capacity of O Pui Shan Boys' Home from 80 to 60 places and the arrangement of merging the girls' remand section of Begonia Road Juvenile Home with the Ma Tau Wai Girls' Home in 2001, what is the adjustment in staffing provision and resource allocation involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The adjustment in capacity of O Pui Shan Boys' Home from 80 to 60 and the merging of the girls' remand section of the Begonia Road Juvenile Home with the Ma Tau Wai Girls' Home have given rise to a staff reduction of 10 and four respectively. The corresponding savings are \$3.18m and \$1.14m annually.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB092

Question Serial No.

0557

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 provide information on the names, nature and background of the service providers for the social therapy centres, hostels and community-based programmes for ex-offenders mentioned in the Estimate.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong (SRACP), formerly known as the Society for the Rehabilitation of Offenders, Hong Kong (SROHK), is the only government-subsidized service provider of those services.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB093

Question Serial No.

0558

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 is the number of recipients served under the Community Support Service Scheme (CSSS)? Please state the success rate and the relevant performance indicators of the Scheme.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In the first three quarters in 2001-02, the CSSS had served 1 337 juvenile offenders and their family members through a series of programmes/activities/groups catering for their needs.

The performance of CSSS is measured against the rate of programmes/activities/groups with goals being achieved with reference to customers' attendance rate, customers' satisfaction rate, feedback from the supervising officers and parents. Having taken all these into account, the satisfaction rate of CSSS was 100% for the first three quarters in 2001-02.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB094

Question Serial No.

0559

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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 : In 2001-02, the percentages of cases satisfactorily completing residential training in probation homes and probation hostel are 84% and 70% respectively, whereas that of the reformatory school is only 69%. Please state separately the arrangement for those who are unable to complete satisfactorily the residential training and the definition of "successfully re-integration of discharged case".

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) For the first three quarters in 2001-02, the arrangement for those residents who were unable to complete satisfactorily the residential training in Probation Homes, Probation Hostel and Reformatory School is listed below:

| Outcomes | Homes | Probation Homes | Probation Hostel | Reformatory School | Total |
|---|--------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Sentenced to other Social Welfare Department correctional homes | | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Sentenced to Correctional Services Department institutions | | 4 | 18 | 12 | 34 |
| Missing (still at large) | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| | Total: | 13 | 19 | 12 | 44 |

(b) The successful re-integration rate of discharged cases of the Probation Homes, Probation Hostel and Reformatory School refers to the percentage of the residents who have satisfactorily completed the training programmes in concerned homes and successfully

secured school placements, or placements of training courses organised by recognised organisations or job placements upon discharge.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB095

Question Serial No.

0598

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

Programme : 14902 Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

As mentioned in the matters requiring special attention of the Health and Welfare Bureau in 2002-2003, the Government will amend the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance. Would the Secretary for Health and Welfare please provide the following information:

- (1) According to the Bureau's timetable, will the legislative proceedings for amending the Ordinance be completed in 2002-2003?
- (2) If yes, what is the share that the expenditure and manpower required for amending the Ordinance will take up in the resources of the Health and Welfare Bureau?
- (3) How will the Bureau implement the Ordinance?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

- (1) We intend to initiate the legislative proposals to the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (Cap. 371) in the second half of 2002/03 legislative year. The timing for the completion of the legislative proceedings will depend on the deliberations of the relevant Bills Committee after the Bill is introduced into the Legislative Council.

- (2) There are officers within the Health and Welfare Bureau responsible for taking forward the legislative amendment exercise. Since there are other subject matters under their purview, we cannot quantify the actual expenditure and manpower attributable solely to the amendment of the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance.
- (3) With a view to implementing the Ordinance effectively, coordination of different enforcement efforts would be essential. In this respect, we shall discuss with government departments concerned about ways of better co-ordinating their enforcement activities. In particular, the Tobacco Control Office (TCO) was set up in February 2001 under the Department of Health as a designated agency to oversee the overall implementation of the Ordinance. In addition, TCO will actively liaise with operators of the public premises concerned on ways and means for effective law enforcement, and to provide them with guidelines to facilitate their enforcement. They will continue their efforts in monitoring the compliance, especially in respect of the new provisions in the Ordinance after their commencement.

As for publicity to enhance public awareness and encourage participation, we shall, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health and other relevant NGOs, intensify our publicity and education efforts in tobacco control.

We shall have to fine-tune the above enforcement arrangement in the light of the final legislative proposals.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB096

Question Serial No.

0627

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : Last Year, the Marketing Consultancy Office was established as a regular support service. What is the outcome of the service over the past year? What is its staffing provision and establishment? What is the estimated annual resources required?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The Marketing Consultancy Office (Rehabilitation) [MCO(R)] became a regular establishment in Social Welfare Department in April 2001. The objective of the Office is to enhance the employment opportunities for people with disabilities through innovative, effective and efficient business development and marketing approaches. The core business of MCO(R) are: (i) Strategic business development including the securing of sales orders for sheltered workshops and supported employment units and assisting the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in setting up small business for facilitating the employment of disabled persons; (ii) Business consulting and training such as providing tailor-made consultation and training programmes for the NGOs; and (iii) Strategic marketing and promotion including the creation of strategic partnership with private and public bodies for promoting the employment opportunities for people with disabilities. It has formed a strong alliance with more than 8 000 people with disabilities in sheltered workshops and supported employment services. Some of the achievements of the Office include the setting up of two sales kiosks and one rehabilitation equipment shop, organised 15 training and promotion programmes,

generated 67 jobs in open and supported employment for people with disabilities and secured 163 job orders and nine tendering contracts with the total value of HK\$3.8m. In addition MCO(R) also takes up advisory and monitoring function for the two new employment-related projects of 'On-the-job Training Programme for People with Disabilities' and 'Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise'. MCO(R) has 11 staff, including one General Manager, three Marketing Managers, three Marketing Officers, three Executive Assistants and one Clerk. The annual estimate of MCO(R) in 2002-03 is \$6.1m.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB097

Question Serial No.

0628

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 Administration will strengthen the Special Investigation Teams (SITs) to safeguard public expenditure from fraud and abuse in the coming year, what is the estimated amount of resources earmarked for the above work? What is the outcome of the work last year?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The estimated provision for SIT in 2002-03 is \$47.1m. To ensure that social security is targeted at those genuinely in need, SITs have achieved the following results for the year 2001-02 (up to the end of December 2001) :

(i) Fraud investigation

(a) Number of suspected fraud cases reported in the year and those brought forward from previous year 3 641

(b) Number of suspected fraud cases where investigations had been fully completed/as a percentage of (i)(a) 1 949 (53.5%)

(c) Number of fraud cases where fraud has been established/as a percentage of (i)(b) 198 (10.2%)

(d) Amount of overpayment involved \$10.3m

(ii) Checking on cases through data matching with other government departments/public organisations

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| (a) Number of matched cases including those not yet investigated by staff of social security field units (SSFUs) before the Team was established on 2 April 2002 | 99 352 |
| (b) Number of matched cases with investigation completed/as a percentage of (ii)(a) | 11 709 (11.8%) |
| (c) Number of matched cases where incorrect payment has been detected/as a percentage of (ii)(b) | 1 674 (14.3%) |
| (d) Amount of overpayment involved | \$27.2m |

(iii) Conducting random check on target cases

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| (a) Number of target cases | 5 878 |
| (b) Number of cases checked/as a percentage of (iii)(a) | 3 273 (55.7%) |
| (c) Number of cases with incorrect information detected/as a percentage of (iii)(b) | 469 (14.3%) |

Note : Information on the amount of incorrect payment involved is not available as follow up actions on those checked cases have been taken up by individual SSFU.

(iv) Recovery of overpayment from cases referred by SSFUs

- | | |
|---|------------|
| (a) Number of overpayment cases referred to SIT for recovery of overpayment together with cases brought forward | 206 |
| (b) Number of cases with action taken/ as a percentage of (iv)(a) | 134 (65%) |
| (c) Number of cases with overpayment recovered/as a percentage of (iv)(b) | 48 (35.8%) |
| (d) Amount of overpayment recovered | \$0.6m |

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB098

Question Serial No.

0629

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 estimated amount of resources required for organising a higher diploma course for social security staff in the coming year? What is the estimated number of places provided by the course? What is the number of places allocated for social security officers and social security assistants respectively?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The provision earmarked for organising a Three-year Part-time Higher Diploma Course in Social Security for social security staff on a partial subsidy basis in 2002-03 is \$0.614m. This course will provide 45 training places per annum for three years starting from 2002-03. The number of places proposed to be allocated to the Social Security Officer and the Social Security Assistant grade staff is 12 and 33 respectively, reflecting the establishment of these two grades.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB099

Question Serial No.

0630

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 shown in the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision, there will be a net increase of 35 posts in the coming year. Are these temporary or permanent posts? Please provide details of the additional posts and the resources required.

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : In 2002-03, there is a net creation of 35 Social Security Officer II permanent civil service posts to strengthen the Special Investigation Teams to detect fraud and to strengthen investigation. The resources required in terms of Notional Annual Mid-point Salary (NAMS) value is \$9,962,400, i.e. \$284,640 x 35 posts.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB100

Question Serial No.

0631

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 Social Welfare Department has planned to enhance publicity to strengthen families in the coming year. What is the amount of resources earmarked for this purpose? What is the target performance in this respect?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : A non-recurrent commitment of \$1.9m is earmarked to enhance publicity and community education to strengthen families and protect children against abuse and violence in 2002-03. The campaign aims at enhancing public awareness to combat child abuse, domestic violence and sexual violence, and strengthening resilience of individuals and family members to cope with problems through prevention and early intervention.

Special TV programmes, Television Announcement of Public Interest and other publicity materials will be produced. Similar to the publicity campaign of “ Empowering Families to Face Challenges ” held in 2001-02, a Working Group comprising representatives of Social Welfare Department, non-governmental organisations and other government departments as appropriate will be formed to work out the detailed plan, including measures to evaluate the effectiveness of these programmes.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB101

Question Serial No.

0632

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : According to the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision, the provision for the coming year will be higher than that of the revised estimate for 2001-02. This is partly due to the additional provision for an increase in the number of refuge centre for women. What is the amount of resources and staffing provision earmarked for this purpose? Also, when will the additional refuge centre be open for use?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : An annual sum of \$3.1m including rent and rates has been earmarked to meet the full year cost of the fourth refuge centre for women in 2002-03. Under the lump sum grant mode, the operating agency will have the flexibility in employing sufficient and appropriate staff to man the refuge centre. According to the service proposal of Po Leung Kuk, the non-governmental organisation selected to operate this centre, 3 social workers, 5 welfare workers and 4 workmen II will be provided upon full operation of the centre. Pending completion of the fitting-out work of the centre, services will be provided on a partial basis in a temporary site starting from March 2002.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB102

Question Serial No.

0633

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 revised financial provision for the government sector is 15.3 % higher than the approved provision for 2001-02. However, provision for the subvented sector has decreased by 6.5 %. What are the main reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The 15.3% increase in the revised estimate for the government sector is mainly due to the 2001 pay adjustment for civil servants (\$3.5m), more staff resources redeployed to this programme (\$8.1m) and a greater share of support and administrative costs arising from the re-organisation of the Social Welfare Department (\$6.9m) in 2001-02. On the other hand, the revised estimate for the subvented sector is lower than the approved estimate in 2001-02 by 6.5% as the additional subvention provision for effecting a pay adjustment in line with the civil service in 2001-02 is more than offset by a later than originally anticipated commencement date of additional residential care places provided through in-situ expansion in existing homes, completion of new projects and the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme. Furthermore, in view of the lower than expected take-up rate of the new Enhanced Home and Community Care Services places, over \$100m originally earmarked for its expansion in 2001-02 has not been spent and will be carried forward to 2002-03.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB103

Question Serial No.

0634

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : According to the analysis of financial provision, the revised estimate for 2001-02 is \$3.06b, representing a decrease of \$180m over the approved estimate of \$3.26b. What are the savings achieved under the Enhanced Productivity Programme (EPP) and the resources earmarked to those planned but not yet commenced services?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The reduction of \$180m in the 2001-02 revised estimate is not due to savings under the Enhanced Productivity Programme (EPP) as there has been no significant changes to EPP savings achieved under this programme in the course of the year. The lower than expected expenditure in 2001-02 amounting to \$180m is mainly attributed to a later than originally anticipated commencement date of additional residential care places provided through in-situ expansion in existing homes, completion of new projects and the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme. Furthermore, in view of the lower than expected take-up rate of the new Enhanced Home and Community Care Services places, over \$100m originally earmarked for its expansion in 2001-02 has not been spent and will be carried forward to 2002-03.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB104

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

0722

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : It is estimated that complaints against healthcare professionals will be increased by 25% from 408 in 2001 to 510 in 2002. What are the reasons? What are its implications on resources? Are there any measures to enhance the training and professional conduct of healthcare professionals?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The estimated increase takes into account the listing and registration of Chinese medicine practitioners (CMPs). 7 707 CMPs were listed in December 2001 and the first batch of registered CMPs will be announced later this year. The workload will be absorbed by the secretariat of the Chinese Medicine Council.

Healthcare professionals are encouraged to undertake continuing professional education and development to ensure that their knowledge, practice and skills are updated. A number of health professions have already agreed in principle that continuing professional education would be a requirement for continuing practice. Other health professions are also exploring the feasibility of doing the same. Moreover, guidelines and codes of practice on professional conduct are revised from time to time by respective Boards and Councils and promulgated to healthcare professionals concerned to keep them up-to-date with prevailing standards.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB105

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

0723

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the details of and the estimated resources for the men's health programme?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The men's health programme is to promote the health and well-being of men in Hong Kong, targeting all adult males. The programme will enhance men's awareness of their health issues through collation of men's health data and promote interactive and targeted health messages to men. These will address common diseases and conditions such as cancer, heart diseases and psychological conditions through multiple channels (e.g. media campaign, Men's Health Website and hotline, etc). The programme also includes outreaching health promotion activities to men in the community. It will be delivered under the supervision of a Consultant in Community Medicine, who will co-ordinate the efforts of various preventive services of the Department and work in collaboration with other sectors. An additional doctor will be employed to assist him in these activities. Elements of the programme will be integrated with existing health promotion and prevention programmes. An additional provision for this programme in 2002-03 is \$0.9M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB106

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative care

0724

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Amidst the economic downturn, attendances at general out-patient clinics should be on the increase. What are the reasons for the estimated drop in attendances at general out-patient clinics by 7% (from 4 770 000 in 2001 to 4 420 000 in 2002)? What are its implications on resources?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The estimated decrease in the number of attendances from 4 770 000 in 2001 to 4 420 000 in 2002 was mainly due to the transfer of five general out-patient clinics to the Hospital Authority in 2001-02. The full year effect of the savings amounting to \$36.9M in 2002-03 will be deployed to strengthen preventive services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB107

Head : 37 Department of Health Subhead (No. & title) : 511
Subvented insitutions

Question Serial No.

0726

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2002-03, there will be a provision of \$3,171,000 for the two Chinese Medicine Clinics operated by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals. Please set out in detail the major expenditure and the funding calculation formula of the subvention.

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

A lump sum grant of \$3,171,000 is provided for subventing the two Chinese Medicine Clinics operated by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to meet part of their operating cost in 2002-03. It is based on the amount agreed with the subvented organisation in 1986 (when the lump-sum grant funding mechanism for these clinics was first set up) with annual adjustment for price level changes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB108

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

Question Serial No.

0727

Programme :

1. Statutory Functions
2. Disease Prevention
4. Curative Care
7. Medical and Dental Treatment for Civil Servants

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of establishment will decrease by 105 in the coming year. Please set out in detail the establishment before and after the proposed deletion of posts.

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The Department of Health will delete a net total of 105 posts in 2002-03. Details of the post deletions and the projected changes in establishment are provided at Annexes A and B.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Details of Posts to be Deleted/Created in 2002-03

Posts to be Deleted

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>Number</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Midwife | Midwife | 16 |
| Inoculator | Inoculator | 4 |
| Dental Technician | Dental Technician II | 1 |
| Clerical Officer | } Clerical Officer | 1 |
| | } Assistant Clerical Officer | 31 |
| Clerical Assistant | Clerical Assistant | 34 |
| Office Assistant | Office Assistant | 3 |
| Confidential Assistant | Confidential Assistant | 1 |
| Chinese Language Officer | Chinese Language Officer II | 1 |
| Calligraphist | Calligraphist | 1 |
| Personal Secretary | Personal Secretary II | 4 |
| Telephone Operator | Telephone Operator | 2 |
| Supplies Supervisor | Supplies Supervisor II | 2 |
| Laboratory Attendant | Laboratory Attendant | 2 |
| Workman II | Workman II | <u>3</u> |
| | Total deletion: | 106 |

Post to be Created

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>Number</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Medical Laboratory Technician | Medical Technologist | <u>1</u> |
| | Total creation: | 1 |
| | Net deletion: | 105 |

Projected Changes in Establishment

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>Establishment as at 1 March 2002</u> | <u>Projected establishment after post deletion</u> |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Midwife | 68 | 52 |
| Inoculator | 58 | 54 |
| Dental Technician II | 13 | 12 |
| Clerical Officer | 84 | 83 |
| Assistant Clerical Officer | 353 | 322 |
| Clerical Assistant | 596 | 562 |
| Office Assistant | 145 | 142 |
| Confidential Assistant | 4 | 3 |
| Chinese Language Officer II | 3 | 2 |
| Calligraphist | 3 | 2 |
| Personal Secretary II | 27 | 23 |
| Telephone Operator | 7 | 5 |
| Supplies Supervisor II | 23 | 21 |
| Laboratory Attendant | 75 | 73 |
| Workman II | 996 | 993 |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB109

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

0729

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the participation rate of new born babies attending maternal and child health centres in 2002? The participation rate of new born babies attending maternal and child health centres and the number of attendances for each service of the maternal and child health centres had both shown a decrease in 2001 as compared with 2000. What are the reasons for such a decline?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The participation rate of new born babies attending maternal and child health centres varies from year to year and ranges between 93% and 95%. The rate in 2002 is expected to fall within this range. The decrease in attendances in 2001 compared with 2000 was mainly due to the decrease in number of births.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB110

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

0730

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the plan for the cervical cancer screening programme in 2002-03, what are the districts where this programme will be implemented? Please also set out the target number of clients, the establishment and the resources involved.

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

A Cervical Screening Task Force (CSTF) has been appointed to oversee the planning, implementation and evaluation of a population-based cervical cancer screening programme. It has a wide representation from professional experts, health services providers, the private sector, non-governmental organisations and women group representatives. The CSTF is expected to produce a report in September 2002 to make recommendations on the programme, including appropriate age targets and coverage rates for screening. The Department will take reference from the recommendations by the CSTF and take steps to implement the programme in collaboration with other health services providers. An additional allocation of \$8.6M for 28 staff will be provided in 2002-03 to strengthen existing cervical cancer screening in maternal and child health centres and woman health centres and to prepare for launching of the population-based territory-wide programme in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB111

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

0731

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the implementation of a parenting programme, please set out the relevant implementation unit, staff establishment, target group and their number.

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The parenting programme will be provided mainly by the existing medical and nursing staff in all 50 maternal and child health centres (MCHCs) in the Department of Health. In 2002-03, 11 additional nurses will be employed. All parents attending MCHCs will receive guidance in parenting through comprehensive information leaflets, workshops and/or individual counselling. Parents having difficulties in parenting will be given more intensive training on parenting skills.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB112

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

0732

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the launch of a pilot men's health programme, please set out the service items, the staff establishment, the number of participants and the resources involved of each service.

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The men's health programme is to promote the health and well-being of men in Hong Kong, targeting all adult males. The programme will enhance men's awareness of their health issues through collation of men's health data and promote interactive and targeted health messages to men. These will address common diseases and conditions such as cancer, heart diseases and psychological conditions through multiple channels (e.g. media campaign, Men's Health Website and hotline etc). The programme also includes outreaching health promotion activities to men in the community. It will be delivered under the supervision of a Consultant in Community Medicine, who will co-ordinate the efforts of various preventive services of the Department and work in collaboration with other sectors. An additional doctor will be employed to assist him in these activities. Elements of the programme will be integrated with existing health promotion and prevention programmes. An additional provision for this programme in 2002-03 is \$0.9M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB113

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

0733

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the setting up of outreaching teams to promote psychosocial health among secondary school students, please set out the establishment and the target number of secondary schools and students to be served?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The Department of Health plans to employ about 300 staff to set up multi-disciplinary outreaching teams comprising doctors, nurses and health promotion officers to promote psychosocial health among 450 000 students in all 550 secondary schools by phases starting from 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

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

HWB114

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative Care

0734

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Department of Health (DH) will transfer five general out-patient clinics to the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2002-03. Please set out the existing establishment, the number of staff, the resources received by DH in last year and the resources to be received by HA after taking over the general out-patient clinics. How will DH redeploy the manpower and resources currently used in delivering the out-patient service after the transfer of the service to HA?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

In 2001-02, the Department of Health (DH) transferred five general out-patient clinics to the Hospital Authority (HA). There were 141 posts in the clinics. Detailed breakdown is as follows:

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Number of Posts</u> |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Medical | 21 |
| Nursing | 46 |
| Allied Health | 25 |
| Clerical | 19 |
| Other Supporting | <u>30</u> |
| Total: | 141 |

DH has absorbed the staff into its other operations and will redeploy the savings amounting to \$36.9M in 2002-03 to strengthen preventive services.

As advised by the Health and Welfare Bureau, the Government has allocated an one-off \$75M to HA in 2001-02 for funding the pilot scheme of taking over the five general out-patient clinics.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB115

Question Serial No.

0728

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

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

Programme : (2) Health
(3) Women's Interest

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The revised expenditure on health and women's interests for the year 2001-02 are \$25.1m and \$14.4m respectively which are lower than the approved expenditure of \$34.1m and \$23.7m. Why?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply : For the programme area "Health", the revised estimate is 26% less than the approved provision in 2001-02. This is mainly due to the reduced expenditure arising from the re-scheduling of health-related studies, researches and projects which we had originally planned to conduct in 2001-02.

For the programme area "Women's Interests", the revised estimate is 39% less than the approved provision in 2001-02. This is mainly due to the fact that the Women's Commission was set up only in January 2001. It needed some time to deliberate and plan its activities. As a result, the expenditure arising from its activities, including public education programmes and the Women's Commission Conference 2002, will be incurred mainly in 2002-03. Now that the Women's

Commission's work is gathering momentum, more programmes will be launched and expenditure incurred.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

Reply Serial No.

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

HWB116

Head : 149 – Government Secreariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Health and Welfare Bureua

Question Serial No.

0766

Programme : (2) Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In the year 2002-2003, Health and Welfare Bureau will prepare for the setting up of a Health and Health Services Research Fund. Please provide the following information:

- a) How much resources will be allocated to the setting up of the fund and what is the mode of operation?
- b) What are the plans for the promotion of the advancement of knowledge in human health and health policy formulation, and the amount of resources and manpower involved?
- c) What are the number of staff to be employed, their grade and their rank?
- d) What are the criteria for application , the maximum amount of fund to be applied, the quota of applications for each year, the estimated total amount of fund allocated, and the timetable for setting up the fund?

Asked by : Hon. Mak Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

Health and Health Services Research Fund

Background

The objective of establishing the Health and Health Services Research Fund (the Fund) is to promote advancement of knowledge in areas of human health and health services. The goal is to facilitate an improvement in the standard and effectiveness of patient care, and to contribute to health policy formulation based on locally generated research evidence.

The Fund will aim to cover four broad thematic priorities based on their potential to optimize health. These are (i) public health theme, (ii) health services theme, (iii) biomedical theme, and (iv) Chinese medicine theme.

Resources and Timetable

The Fund is still at the planning stage. The size of the Fund is being determined pending finalisation of the plan. Nevertheless, the following planning parameters are applicable:-

- i) a one-off capital grant will be proposed,
- ii) the Fund will be subject to evaluation in 2004-05,
- iii) no staff will be employed using the one-off grant, and
- iv) the entire sum will be devoted to health and health services research.

It is estimated that the Fund will commence operation towards the later part of 2002. There will be two rounds of grants applications per year.

Operation of the Fund

The Fund will be administered by the Research Office of HWB. Professional expertise will be provided through a liaison network of local experts from the academic setting, private and public sector. Additionally, experienced overseas experts will provide input through modern communication means. This method of working is classically referred to as the “peer review” mechanism.

Eligibility and Criteria of Application

To be eligible for a grant, the proposed research project must be of high scientific merits and of potential local application and benefits. Potential applicants include doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and other researchers in the public, private and academic setting. All research proposals will be peer-reviewed. The criteria for vetting applications will include the following broad principles:-

- i) Degree of correlation with the priority of the Fund,
- ii) Scientific quality of the proposed research project,
- iii) Track record and research capability of the applicant/applying institution, and
- iv) Scientific opportunity in terms of potential to improve health and health services.

Maximum Cap and Quota

Based on international experience, the Fund will establish a maximum cap for grants applications. It is likely to be between \$1 million and \$1.5 million for most projects.

There is no quota of applications for each year. However, the limiting factors include (i) the two rounds of grants applications per year, (ii) the financial cap, and (iii) the scientific assessment through peer review.

Dissemination of Research Findings

To ensure the objective of the Fund is achieved, a mechanism to disseminate research findings will be put in place. This will facilitate the translation of research evidence into practice and policy formulation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB117

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

0765

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : It is estimated by the Department of Health that the provision in 2003 for setting up outreaching teams and enhancing other health promotion programmes is \$86.2M higher than that in 2002, representing an increase of 67.7%.

- (a) What are the detailed plan to be developed by the use of the provision, the beneficiaries and the schedule?
- (b) What are the estimated number of additional staff to be recruited under this programme and their grades, entry requirements and remuneration package?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

(a) The increase in provision of \$86.2M is mainly due to implementing the adolescent health programme and enhancement of the existing health promotion activities. The adolescent health programme will be implemented by phases starting from 2002-03 to promote psychosocial health among 450 000 students in all 550 secondary schools. We will collaborate with teachers, school social workers, non-governmental organisations and parent-teacher associations to organise and conduct health promotion programmes.

(b) The Department plans to employ more than 300 additional staff comprising mainly nurses (\$18,140 per month), Health Promotion Officers (\$17,100 per month) attaining degree level and Health Programme Assistants (\$8,000 per month) attaining secondary school education level.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

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

HWB118

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

0824

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of registration applications from healthcare professionals processed will drop from 11 670 cases in 2001 to 2 640 cases in 2002.

- (a) What are the areas of responsibilities and the terms of appointment of the officers responsible for processing the applications?
- (b) What are the reasons for the drop in the number of registration applications processed? What is its impact on resources and manpower?
- (c) What is the average annual number of registration applications processed and the number of officers responsible for the processing during the past five years?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

- (a) The staff responsible for processing the applications comprises staff on permanent establishment and temporary staff. They are responsible for processing the applications for registrations and renewal of registrations.
- (b)-(c) The number of registration applications from healthcare professionals processed will decrease from 11 670 in 2001 to 2 640 in 2002. It is mainly due to the listing of about 8 000 Chinese medicine practitioners in 2001 and an expected decrease in the number of nursing graduates by about 900 in 2002.

The average number of registration applications processed for various healthcare professionals from 1997 to 2000 was about 4 600 per annum. In 2001, the total number of registration applications processed increased to 11 670. The number of staff for processing the applications has therefore increased from 11 to 36. This level of staff is required in 2002-03 for the following tasks –

- (i) to vet the practising experience and academic qualifications of about 8 000 listed Chinese medicine practitioners and their applications for registration;
- (ii) to process about 2 700 registrations as well as about 35 000 renewals of practising certificate of other registered healthcare professionals.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB119

Question Serial No.

0921

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 indicated in the Controlling Officer's Report, one of the matters requiring special attention in 2002-03 is to "ensure the timely commencement of service at the Suicidal Crisis Centre to be operated by the Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong and monitor its usage." In this connection, what is the amount of financial provision and manpower resources allocated for implementing the work? How would the work be evaluated in terms of its effectiveness in suicidal prevention?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply : To address the problem of suicide, a grant of \$10.615m from the Lotteries Fund has been allocated to the Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong to set up a Suicidal Crisis Centre on a three-year pilot basis. The Centre will be staffed by one supervisor, eight crisis workers (social workers or clinical psychologists), one clerk and one part-time cleaner upon full implementation. Together with the agency's hotline service and the Suicide Prevention Education and Resource Centre (supported by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust at \$5.15m also for a period of three years), it will form a three-pronged approach to tackle the problem of suicide.

The Centre has pledged to serve 1 400 cases per year, and to compile and publish a manual on crisis intervention for reference by frontline workers. It has also pledged to achieve a level that 85% of the cases will be closed/referred out with “low” or “no” suicide risk after intervention. Apart from these output/outcome indicators, the agency has also planned to collaborate with the University of Hong Kong to conduct an evaluative study of the project. The Social Welfare Department will maintain close contact with the agency to monitor the progress of the project.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB120

Question Serial No.

0922

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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) According to the Controlling Officer's Report, Social Welfare Department (SWD) implemented new initiatives in the 2001 Budget to provide better care for people with disabilities including the "On-the-job Training Programme for People with Disabilities" to promote self-reliance in 2001. Please provide details on the implementation of these initiatives last year and their effectiveness. What will be the plan of work in the coming work?
- (b) The Administration plans to finance projects on "Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprises" under the \$50m grant in 2002-03. Please provide details on the projects.
- (c) The Administration plans to conduct a value for money study into supported employment in 2002-03. Please provide details on the study and expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

- (a) The Department has started to implement the “On-the-job Training Programme for People with Disabilities” (the Programme) in October 2001. It is a three-year project with a total capacity of 360 places per year making a total of 1 080 places. Job training/counselling, job attachment, job trial and post-placement service are offered to people with disabilities. 14 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have been selected to operate the Programme. In the first four months of operation, 175 people with disabilities have been admitted with 79 job attachment placements and 12 job placements arranged. In addition, 14 participants have already secured open employment through the Programme. The Department will conduct a mid-term evaluation of the Programme 18 months after its operation.
- (b) The Government has earmarked \$50m for launching the “Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprises” project (the Project). The Project is to make grants to NGOs to create and run a small business employing people with disabilities. The maximum grant is \$2m per business. The number of employees with disabilities employed should not be less than 60% of the total number of persons employed. The Department invited the first batch of applications in September 2001 and 33 applications were received. Presently, six applications with a total cost of around \$5m have been approved by the Department. The businesses are expected to start by mid 2002. About 120 employment opportunities with more than 70 of them earmarked for people with disabilities will be created. Meanwhile, we have identified a further six applications which subject to clarification by the agencies concerned could also be considered for funding. We shall invite a second batch of new applications in early 2003. Prior to that, we will arrange briefing and experience sharing sessions as needed.
- (c) The Department will conduct an internal value for money study into the Supported Employment service in 2002–03. The objective of the study is to gather information with a view to improving the cost-effectiveness of the service. The study will cover examination on: (a) input cost; (b) service delivery methods, procedures and productivity; and (c) service output as

measured against targets. The study will commence in early 2002-03 and is expected to complete in six months' time. SWD staff will undertake the study and no additional expenses will be required.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB121

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

0861

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2002-03, the provision under Health Promotion will increase by more than 60%. What are the expenditure involved and the schedule for implementing the proposal?

Asked by : Hon. SZETO Wah

Reply :

The increase in provision of \$86.2M is mainly due to implementing the adolescent health programme and enhancement of the existing health promotion activities. The adolescent health programme will be implemented by phases starting from 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB122

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

0862

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2002-03, the Department of Health will set up outreaching teams to promote psychosocial health among secondary school students. Who will be the service recipients? What will be the mode of implementation?

Asked by : Hon. SZETO Wah

Reply :

The Department of Health plans to employ about 300 staff to set up multi-disciplinary outreaching teams to promote psychosocial health among 450 000 students in all 550 secondary schools by phases starting from 2002-03. We will collaborate with teachers, school social workers, non-governmental organisations and parent-teacher associations to organise and conduct health promotion programmes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB123

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

0863

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Will the proposal under this programme involve overlapping of resources as far as youth services provided by the Hospital Authority and the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong are concerned? What is the unit cost for each service recipient?

Asked by : Hon. SZETO Wah

Reply :

There is no duplication as the nature of service is different. The adolescent health programme adopts a new outreaching approach to promote psychosocial health of adolescents in the school setting. The average expenditure for each recipient is about \$210.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB124

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

0864

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the expenditure on the promotion of oral health among the elderly and secondary school students in the past five years? What are its proportion in the total expenditure on dental services and the changes?

Asked by : Hon. SZETO Wah

Reply :

As oral health education programme covers all population groups, there is no specific allocation for the elderly and secondary school students. The expenditure on oral health education and the expenditure on oral health education as a proportion of the total expenditure on dental services in the past five years are as follows :

| | <u>Expenditure on oral health education</u> | <u>Expenditure on oral health education as a proportion of the total expenditure on dental services</u> |
|-----------|---|---|
| | \$M | |
| 1997-98 | 13.1 | 7.0% |
| 1998-99 | 15.7 | 7.5% |
| 1999-2000 | 17.0 | 7.7% |
| 2000-01 | 17.1 | 7.9% |
| 2001-02 | 19.5 | 8.1% |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB125

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

0915

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the proposals to launch a cervical cancer screening programme, a parenting programme and a men's health programme :

- (a) Please provide the respective details, mode of implementation and the breakdown of annual expenditure involved.
- (b) It is noted that the expenditure increased will be partly offset by the net deletion of 21 permanent posts. Please set out the details of the posts to be deleted and the savings thus made.

Asked by : Hon. Mrs LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

Reply :

(a) Cervical cancer screening programme

A Cervical Screening Task Force (CSTF) has been appointed to oversee the planning, implementation and evaluation of a population-based cervical cancer screening programme. It has a wide representation from professional experts, health services providers, the private sector, non-governmental organisations and women group representatives. The CSTF will recommend appropriate age targets and coverage rates for screening and make recommendations on quality management issues and the establishment of an information system to facilitate operation of the programme. The Department will take reference from the recommendations by the CSTF and take steps to implement the programme in collaboration with other health services providers. An additional allocation of \$8.6M for 28 staff will be provided in 2002-03 to strengthen existing cervical cancer screening in maternal and child health centres and woman health centres and to prepare for launching of the population-based programme in 2003-04.

Parenting programme

The parenting programme aims to equip parents attending maternal and child health centres with knowledge and skills to bring up healthy and well-adjusted children. All parents will be given guidance in parenting, delivered through comprehensive information leaflets, workshops and/or individual counselling. Parents who encounter difficulties in parenting will be given more intensive training on parenting skills. Families with complicated problems will be referred for management by specialists in the medical or social services. An additional allocation of \$1.7M will be provided in 2002-03 and 11 additional nurses will be employed.

Men's health programme

The men's health programme is to promote the health and well-being of men in Hong Kong, targeting all adult males. The programme will enhance men's awareness of their health issues through collation of men's health data and promote interactive and targeted health messages to men. These will address common diseases and conditions such as cancer, heart diseases and psychological conditions through multiple channels (e.g. media campaign, Men's Health Website and hotline etc). The programme also includes outreaching health promotion activities to men in the community. It will be delivered under the supervision of a Consultant in Community Medicine, who will co-ordinate the efforts of various preventive services of the Department and work in collaboration with other sectors. An additional doctor will be employed to assist him in these activities. Elements of the programme will be integrated with existing health promotion and prevention programmes. An additional provision for this programme in 2002-03 is \$0.9M.

- (b) In 2002-03, the Department of Health will delete a net total of 21 posts in Programme (2), amounting to savings of \$1.8M. Details are as follows:

| <u>Rank of Posts</u> | <u>Number of Posts</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i><u>Posts to be deleted</u></i> | | |
| Laboratory Attendant | 1 |) Voluntary Retirement (The |
| Midwife | 16 |) original duties of the posts |
| Inoculator | 2 |) deleted would be delivered |
| Telephone Operator | 1 |) through alternative means or |
| | |) absorbed by existing staff.) |
| Assistant Clerical Officer | 1 |) Enhanced efficiency upon the |
| Laboratory Attendant | 1 |) implementation of the second |
| | |) phase of the Laboratory |
| | |) Information System |
| Total deletion: | <u>22</u> | |
| <i><u>Post to be created</u></i> | | |
| Medical Technologist | 1 |) To strengthen laboratory |
| | |) support for the food |
| | |) surveillance programme |
| Total creation: | <u>1</u> | |
| Net deletion: | 21 | |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB126

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

0916

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please set out in detail the establishment of the outreaching teams to be set up to promote psychosocial health among secondary school students and the expenditure arrangement of the entire plan, the estimated number of service recipients and the distribution of regions.

Asked by : Hon. Mrs LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

Reply :

The Department of Health plans to employ about 300 staff to set up multi-disciplinary outreaching teams comprising doctors, nurses and health promotion officers to promote psychosocial health among 450 000 students in all 550 secondary schools by phases starting from 2002-03. The additional provision for this programme in 2002-03 is \$65.5M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB127

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

Question Serial No.

0855

Programme : (2) Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : With regard to Programme (1) Health, please answer the following questions:

- (a) How much resources will be allocated to monitor the effectiveness of transferring the general out-patient clinics to the Hospital Authority in enhancing the quality and quantity of service?
- (b) The Administration will carry out a study on the proposed Health Protection Account and new charges for other medical services such as the service of accident and emergency department. In this connection, please list the expenditures, implementation timetable and details of the study.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

- (a) Through existing manpower and resources, the Health and Welfare Bureau has convened an inter-departmental working group to work out an implementation plan for the transfer of the general outpatient service to the Hospital Authority. There is no envisaged additional expenditure or funding requirement.
- (b) For the Health Protection Account (HPA), a study is being planned for the third quarter of 2002. It is envisaged that the study will take approximately 12 months to complete. The work will include the development of a range of HPA schemes, assessment of their impacts and recommendation of the ways forward. There will be professional input from local academics. No expenditure has yet been incurred.

Separately, a consultancy study headed by a health care economist from the University of California, Berkely, is underway to assess the impact of fees restructuring including any possible new charges on the utilization of public and private health care services. We expect the study to complete by mid-2002 and thereafter we will consider the details and timing on the implementation of a new fees structure. The total budget of the study is about \$1.6 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr YEOH Eng-kiong

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB128

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

Question Serial No.

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

0920

Head : 149 – Government Secretariat : 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 : Regarding the review of old age allowance, what progress had been made and how much financial provision and manpower resources were allocated for the review last year? In 2002-03 Estimates, how much resources will the Health and Welfare Bureau allocate for handling the issues arising from the review? Can the review be completed in 2002?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply : In view of the ageing of our population, we have been considering the provision of financial support for needy elders in the context of the three-pillar model recommended by the World Bank. The review of the Old Age Allowance (OAA) Scheme has been carried out in that context. Our objective is to develop a long-term sustainable safety net that better targets resources at those needy elders to meet their basic needs, and which takes account of local circumstances, especially our low and simple taxation system. How to achieve this objective is a very complex issue, which we need to further examine carefully.

Work relating to the review has been carried out using existing resources. In the Health and Welfare Bureau, this comprises part of the time of a Deputy Secretary, a Principal Assistant Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Senior Research Officer, and a Senior Statistician. We will continue to proceed with the review of the social security schemes for older persons from within existing resources in 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr YEOH Eng-kiong

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB129

Question Serial No.

0925

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question:

Please list the financial provision made for each of the following new services:

- (a) taking over the general out-patient clinics from the Department of Health;
- (b) introducing the Chinese out-patient services;
- (c) implementing a suicide prevention programme for the elderly;
- (d) implementing a pilot EXtended-care patients Intensive Treatment, Early diversion and Rehabilitation Stepping-stone (EXITERS) project;
- (e) establishing ten hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres; and
- (f) employing 1 000 additional care assistants to strengthen the provision of extended care services in public hospitals.

Asked by : Hon. LO Wing-Lok

Reply :

During 2002-03, the Hospital Authority (HA) will provide the following new services for which additional Government funding has been earmarked:

| Services | Government Funding (\$ Million) |
|---|--|
| (a) Introduction of Chinese medicine out-patient services | 51.5 |
| (b) Implementation of an elderly suicide prevention programme | 12.6 |
| (c) Implementation of a pilot EXITERS project | 25.0 |
| (d) Introduction of ten hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation programmes | 16.8 |
| (e) Employment of an additional 1 000 care assistants to strengthen the provision of extended care services in public hospitals | 120.0 |

There will be no transfer of general out-patient clinics from the Department of Health to HA in 2002-03. We are working out the implementation plan (including the financial provision) for the transfer of the remaining 59 clinics.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 22 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB130

Question Serial No.

0955

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 Social Welfare Department (SWD) has indicated that it will provide an additional 60 foster care and 30 emergency foster care places. What is the total number of emergency foster care places for the year 2002-03? In which districts will the Department provide the service and how is it utilised? Also, when will the Department expect to complete an in-house review on foster care service?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply : Currently, there are no designated resources for emergency foster care service. Rather, resources of 16 places are deployed from the existing 580 ordinary foster care places to provide emergency foster placements of children in need of out-of-home care under crisis and emergency situations. As there is a high service demand in emergency foster care service in that the utilisation rate reached 150% in both 1999-2000 and 2000-01, SWD will provide 30 designated emergency foster care places in 2002-03, in addition to increasing the number of ordinary foster care places by 60. Upon the introduction of the 30 designated emergency foster care places, the 16 emergency foster care places deployed from existing resources will be reverted back to ordinary foster care places. Hence, the number of emergency places for the year 2002-03 is 30. Foster care service is provided in the home environment of foster parents. There is thus no pre-determined geographical distribution of the additional places.

The SWD has carried out an in-house review of the modus operandi of foster care service in early 2002. The scope for further developing foster care to better serve the child's welfare will continue to be kept under review.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB131

Question Serial No.

0956

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 Social Welfare Department (SWD) has mentioned under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2002-03" that it will ensure the timely commencement of service at the Suicidal Crisis Centre to be operated by the Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong. When will the Centre expect to commence service? What is the estimated amount of expenditure involved? The Department has also indicated under "Matters Requiring Attention in 2002-03" that training will be provided for social workers and professionals on handling cases on child abuse, domestic violence, etc.. What is the estimated number of social workers and professionals participating in the training? What is the expenditure incurred?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply : The Suicidal Crisis Centre operated by the Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong will commence operation by phases in 2002-03. Under an initial phase, four staff including the supervisor and three crisis workers have reported duty in March 2002. They are now engaged in the preparatory work. A package of services including outreaching service and crisis counselling for cases referred from the agency's hotline will be available in April 2002. In June 2002, the Centre will extend its services by receiving referrals from government departments and other organisations. Its office premises in Pak Tin Estate will be ready for use in July 2002 upon completion of fitting-out works. Full implementation of service is expected

to take place in October 2002. By then, the Centre will have one supervisor, eight crisis workers (social workers or clinical psychologists), one clerk and one part-time cleaner. A grant of \$10.615m from the Lotteries Fund has been allocated to this project on a three-year pilot basis.

In 2002-03, a series of training programmes on domestic violence and child protection will be organised for a total of 710 personnel, including 540 social workers and clinical psychologists and 170 related professionals, including teachers, medical/nursing staff and police officers. An amount of \$0.129m has been earmarked for organising these programmes.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB132

Question Serial No.

0957

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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) Social Welfare Department (SWD) conducted a six-month consultancy study on risk management on social security schemes in 2001 and will consider adopting a risk management approach in the administration of social security schemes in 2002-03. Please provide details on the implementation of the plan. Will those who have received social security assistance be affected?
- (b) As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2002-03, SWD will strengthen the Special Investigation Teams (SITs) to safeguard public expenditure from fraud and abuse. What is the number of staff in the teams at present? How many cases were handled last year? How will SWD strengthen these teams?
- (c) (c) According to SWD, a higher diploma course will be commissioned for social security staff. How many places are provided and what is the estimated expenditure on it?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply :

- (a) Based on the recommendations of the consultancy study, SWD will establish an integrated risk management framework to strengthen the current risk control measures and functions. In the short term, SWD will establish a dedicated Risk Management Team at headquarters, enhance the operations of SITs to provide one-stop services, adopt baseline survey techniques to identify risk profiles, enhance the computer system to capture result of reviews and devise initial performance indicators. In the long run, SWD will perform regular risk assessment exercise to identify the effectiveness of the risk control measures, produce a risk control plan at regular intervals, and apply risk profiles to revise the review cycle and review methods.

By adopting a risk management approach, SWD will ensure that social security funded by General Revenue will go to assist those genuinely in need and preserve the integrity of this important safety net.

- (b) At present, there are 87 staff members in SITs including 15 and 38 staff deployed from social security field units (SSFUs) to SITs since 8 May 2000 and 2 April 2001 respectively in view of increasing workload. They have achieved the following results for the year 2001-02 (up to the end of December 2001) :

(i) Fraud investigation

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| (a) Number of suspected fraud cases reported in the year and those brought forward from previous year | 3 641 |
| (b) Number of suspected fraud cases where investigations had been fully completed/as a percentage of (i)(a) | 1 949 (53.5%) |
| (c) Number of fraud cases where fraud has been established/as a percentage of (i)(b) | 198 (10.2%) |
| (d) Amount of overpayment involved | \$10.3m |

(ii) Checking on cases through data matching with other government departments/public organisations

- (a) Number of matched cases including those not yet investigated by staff of SSFUs before the Team was established on 2 April 2002

- (b) Number of matched cases with investigation completed/as a percentage of (ii)(a) 11 709 (11.8%)
- (c) Number of matched cases where incorrect payment has been detected/as a percentage of (ii)(b) 1 674 (14.3%)
- (d) Amount of overpayment involved \$27.2m

(iii) Conducting random check on target cases

- (a) Number of target cases 5 878
- (b) Number of cases checked/as a percentage of (iii)(a) 3 273 (55.7%)
- (c) Number of cases with incorrect information detected/as a percentage of (iii)(b) 469 (14.3%)

Note: Information on the amount of incorrect payment involved is not available as follow up actions on those checked cases have been taken up by individual SSFUs.

(iv) Recovery of overpayment from cases referred by SSFUs

- (a) Number of overpayment cases referred to SIT for recovery of overpayment together with cases brought forward 206
- (b) Number of cases with actions taken/as a percentage of (iv)(a) 134 (65%)
- (c) Number of cases with overpayment recovered/as a percentage of (iv)(b) 48 (35.8%)
- (d) Amount of overpayment recovered \$0.6m

To safeguard public expenditure from fraud and abuse, a total of 56 permanent posts will be created in SITs in the coming year. In addition to rectifying the temporary redeployment, there will be a net addition of three posts, making a full and permanent establishment of 90 staff in 2002-03.

- (c) The Three-year Part-time Higher Diploma Course for Social Security staff will provide 45 training places per annum for three years starting from 2002-03. The provision earmarked for this purpose in 2002-03 is \$0.614m.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>22 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB133

Question Serial No.

0958

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2002-03, Social Welfare Department (SWD) will expand the provision of Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) to frail elders who are assessed to have moderate level of impairment or above. Has the Government assessed the current number of elders who require these services? How many elders in need have been served by SWD so far? In the past two financial years and in the coming year, what are the respective expenditures incurred by the services?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply : In most developed countries, about 5% to 10% of the older population with functional disabilities seek some form of assistance in provision of long term care. We expect Hong Kong has a similar trend to other developed countries, i.e. roughly 5% to 10% of our elders will seek some form of assistance for their care needs in terms of community or residential care.

The EHCCS was introduced in April 2001. In 2001-02, the total expenditure was \$63m for setting up 18 EHCCS teams in each of the 18 District Council districts to benefit 1 453 elders. In view of the increasing demand for EHCCS, \$17.5m has been earmarked for in-situ expansion of the 18 EHCCS teams from January 2002. In addition, we have earmarked about \$90m to further expand EHCCS and to re-engineer existing home help teams in 2002-03.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB134

Question Serial No.

0959

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 enrolment rate of sheltered workshops reaches 100% for 2001-02 (Estimate), reflecting a great demand for the service. However, the Social Welfare Department has not increased the number of places for 2002-03 (Plan). What are the reasons? What is the current number of people waiting for places in the sheltered workshops? What is the average waiting time for each applicant to enrol in a sheltered workshop?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply : There is no plan to increase the number of sheltered workshop places in 2002-03. In 2001-02, we significantly expanded the service by providing 532 additional places. 232 of these only come into operation in March 2002. There will be capacity to absorb some of the applicants on the waiting list. As at February 2002, there were 1 617 people with disabilities waiting for the service. The average waiting time in 2001 for the service was nine months which could be reduced to less than six months, if the applicants did not insist on attending a particular workshop.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB135

Question Serial No.

0960

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 Social Welfare Department has indicated that it will continue to provide programme assistants (PAs) in youth welfare facilities by recruiting unemployed youth to enhance their employability in 2002-03. How many unemployed youth will be benefited from this programme? What is the effectiveness of value for money achieved in respect of enhancing the employability of the youth participants?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply : According to the quarterly return from non-governmental organisations as per December 2001, which is the latest available figure, 460 PAs in youth welfare facilities were employed. Similar provision of PA job will continue in 2002-03.

PAs are deployed to assist social workers in these welfare facilities. They play a supporting role, eg. in helping to arrange programme logistics, in making contacts with service users, etc.. We therefore do not have specific value for money measures in assessing the performance of PAs. However, according to the result of a survey conducted in September 2001, both PAs and their employers agreed unanimously that the new initiative did provide job opportunities for young people of low academic level. The respondents' satisfactory rate towards the scheme was as high as 97%.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | _____ |

Reply Serial No.

HWB136

Question Serial No.

0969

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 places provided in the halfway houses for discharged mental patients has increased from 1 307 in 2000-01 to 1 349 in 2002-03 (Plan), and the number of places of long stay care home has increased by 210. How much resources will the Social Welfare Department provide to sustain such expansion of services?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply : Full-year provision for the 42 additional halfway house places in 2002-03 is \$3.2m. Provision for the increase of 210 long stay care home places in 2002-03 is \$22.1m.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB137

Question Serial No.

0970

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

**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 : There was no increase in the number of places of day services provided in the training and activity centres for ex-mentally ill persons in both 2000-01 and 2001-02, but the number of places of residential services provided in the halfway houses for discharged mental patients has increased by 42. With this regard:

- (1) what is the reason for not providing additional places for day services accordingly in the training and activity centres for ex-mentally ill persons?
- (2) what is the enrolment rate of halfway houses for discharged mental patients for the past five years? What is the age distribution of the residents.

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply : (1) Increase in provision of services varies from year to year. A new Training and Activity Centre (TAC) with a capacity of 50 training places and 200 social club membership was set up in March 2001, making a total provision of 230 training places and 1 000 social club membership in five centres in 2000-01 over the territory. Although no additional TAC places were provided in 2001-02, an additional provision of \$1.58m per year has been injected into the existing five centres since 2001-02 for improvement and expansion of services. Under this initiative, each centre is allocated \$0.316m to meet the extra expenditure of training programmes and employment of one additional social worker to provide psychosocial intervention to members. As at today, an applicant can be offered a placement in TAC within three months.

- (2) The enrolment rate and age profile of enrolled cases in halfway houses in the past five years are provided in the following table:

| Enrolment Rate and Age Profile of Enrolled Cases in Halfway Houses from 1997 to 2001 | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-------|--------------|---------------------------|
| | Age Group of enrolled cases | | | |
| Year | 15-29 | 30-59 | 60 and above | Enrolment rate (%) |
| 1997 | 12% | 85% | 3% | 95.4% |
| 1998 | 12% | 85% | 2% | 95.0% |
| 1999 | 13% | 84% | 3% | 96.0% |
| 2000 | 13% | 85% | 2% | 98.0% |
| 2001 | 13% | 85% | 2% | 99.5% |

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB138

Question Serial No.

0986

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead : 700 (Item 515 -
Intensive Employment
Assistance Fund)

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2001-02, what is the number of participants in the Special Job Attachment Programme (SJAP) and programmes financed by the Intensive Employment Assistance Fund (IEAF)? How many of them are Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients? How many CSSA recipients are offered job opportunities? How many people have left the CSSA net?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : The programmes financed under the SJAP and IEAF have been launched since January and March 2001 respectively. As at the end of January 2002, the key figures about the participants are as follows:

| | | SJAP | IEAF |
|-----|---|----------------|--------------|
| (a) | No. of participants having joined the programmes | 1 462 | 1 271 |
| (b) | No. of CSSA recipients having joined the programmes/as a percentage of (a) | 1 190 (81%) | 905 (71%) |
| (c) | No. of CSSA recipients having been offered job opportunities/as a percentage of (b) | 286 (24%) | 358 (40%) |
| (d) | No. of CSSA recipients having left the CSSA net/as a percentage of (b) | 78 (7%) | 60 (7%) |

In addition to those who have left the CSSA net, 73 and 52 participants from the respective programmes under the SJAP and IEAF (each about 6% of its total participants) have moved from the 'unemployment' category to the 'low-earnings' category.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB139

Question Serial No.

0987

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead : 700 (Item 515 -
Intensive Employment
Assistance Fund)

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The balance of Intensive Employment Assistance Fund will be \$26,159,000. After deducting the committed expenditure and the expenditure for financed programmes, what is the balance left in 2002-03 for new programmes that have not yet been provided financial assistance?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply : After deducting the committed expenditure and the expenditure for financed programmes, the balance of the Fund left in 2002-03 for new programmes that have not yet been provided financial assistance is \$3,700,000. The Social Welfare Department is considering to use the remaining funding to support programmes tailored to assist unemployed Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients who possess 'sam hong' skills to find jobs and become more self-reliant.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB140

Question Serial No.

1015

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead: 149 –
General departmental expenses

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The estimated provision under “General departmental expenses” in this year will go up by 33%. Please state in detail the provision for each item and its proportion to the overall expenses

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The increase of \$71m (33%) for the estimated provision for 2002-03 over the 2001-02 revised estimate under Subhead 149 General departmental expenses is due to additional provision for the following items :

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Proportion</u> |
|---|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | \$m | to 2002-03 Estimate % |
| Creation of temporary jobs to provide improved services in the welfare sector | 26.7 | 9.4 |
| Enhanced training for staff working in child care centres and other services | 32.6 | 11.5 |

| | <u>Amount</u> \$m | <u>Proportion</u> <u>to 2002-03</u> <u>Estimate</u> % |
|---|----------------------|--|
| Strengthening the social security services | 6.2 | 2.2 |
| Training and support for further implementation of the Understanding the Adolescent Project | 0.9 | 0.3 |
| Cleansing services transferred from the Government Property Administrator | 3.1 | 1.1 |
| Other minor expenses for enhancing computer systems | <u>1.5</u> | <u>0.5</u> |
| Total | <u><u>71.0</u></u> | <u><u>25.0</u></u> |

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Name in block letters | Director of Social Welfare |
| Post Title | 26 March 2002 |
| Date | |

Reply Serial No.

HWB141

Question Serial No.

1016

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead: 178 –
Programme and training
expenses of institutions

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : There will be an estimated 30.7% increase in the provision under “Programme and training expenses of institutions” for this year. What is the provision for each item? Will the Administration review this provision?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The increase of \$15m (30.7%) for the estimated provision for 2002-03 over the 2001-02 revised estimate under Subhead 178 Programme and training expenses of institutions is due to additional provision for the following items:

| | \$m |
|--|-------------------------|
| Continuing the Community Work Programme for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients under the Support for Self-reliance Scheme hitherto supported on an experimental basis by the Lotteries Fund | 0.7 |
| Giving financial assistance to various self-help groups, parent resource centres for people with disabilities and other community support activities | 13.7 |
| Training and support for further implementation of the Understanding the Adolescent Project | 0.6 |
| | <hr/> <hr/> <u>15.0</u> |

The Administration will continue to monitor the above items and make necessary adjustments by re-deployment of resources from time to time.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB142

Question Serial No.

1017

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 170 - Social Welfare Department Subhead : 184
Traffic Accident
Victims Assistance
Scheme

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Please give a detailed account of the provision under the Traffic Accident Victims Assistance (TAVA) Scheme.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The provision of \$24.166m under the TAVA Scheme for the year 2002-03 is the contribution from the General Revenue to the TAVA Fund.

Payments under the TAVA Scheme are made from the TAVA Fund, the income of which is drawn principally from three sources, namely, levies on vehicle licences, levies on driving licences and contribution from the General Revenue.

The contribution from the General Revenue, set at one-fifth of the total cost of the TAVA Scheme, is intended to cover the pedestrians' part in causing traffic accidents. It is estimated on the basis of 25% of the total levies expected to be collected during the year. An adjustment to the government contribution will be made in the following year when the actual income from the levies is known.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB143

Question Serial No.

1051

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 Social Welfare Department's (SWD) plan to enhance publicity and public education campaigns to strengthen the family and the protection of children and other victims from abuse and violence? Please provide a breakdown of the estimated provision for each item.

Asked by : Hon. Mrs LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

Reply : A non-recurrent commitment of \$1.9m is earmarked to launch a publicity campaign in 2002-03 to enhance publicity and community education to strengthen families and protect children against abuse and violence. The campaign aims at enhancing public awareness to combat child abuse, domestic violence and sexual violence, and strengthening resilience of individuals and family members to cope with problems through prevention and early intervention. This is on top of an ongoing major publicity and public education campaign on "Empowering Families to Face Challenges" launched in December 2001. A Working Group comprising representatives of SWD, non-governmental organisations and other government departments as appropriate will be formed to work out the detailed plan. A breakdown of the budget by item will only be available when a detailed plan has been worked out.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB144

Question Serial No.

1052

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 Social Welfare Department's (SWD) foster care service,
(a) In 2001-02, the cost per place per month for subvented sector is \$9,266, but in 2002-03, it is reduced to \$8,965. What is the reason? What measures does the Administration have to ensure that the service quality is not affected?
(b) In 2001-02, the cost per place per month for the government sector is \$8,772, but the cost for 2002-03 is not given. What is the reason?

Asked by : Hon. Mrs LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

Reply: (a) The estimated reduction in unit cost in 2002-03 for subvented sector places is due to the introduction of an additional 60 foster care and 30 emergency foster care places, as well as the transfer of 40 foster care places from SWD to five non-governmental organisations (NGOs) through in-situ expansion in 2002-03, and the resultant cost benefits derived from economy of scale. There will be absolutely no deterioration in service quality. On the contrary, in inviting the five existing NGO operators to submit a service proposal to bid for the additional places, we expect more value-added services. The operating NGOs' proposals with outputs and outcomes to be delivered will then form part of the Funding and Service Agreement and will be subject to service performance monitoring by the Department.

- (b) As SWD will transfer the 40 foster care places currently under its supervision to the subvented sector in 2002-03, there will be no more foster care direct service in the government sector from 2002-03. The unit cost for the service under the government sector is therefore no longer applicable. SWD will retain its central functions on service publicity, recruitment, assessment, training and retention of foster homes, etc..

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB145

Question Serial No.

1069

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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) For the proposed increase of 35 posts, what are the distribution and details?
- (b) Do the above-mentioned new posts and their job nature overlap with the existing grades?
- (c) If yes, will the Administration make any adjustments accordingly?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) The 35 posts are Social Security Officer II posts which are permanent civil service posts provided to strengthen the Special Investigation Teams (SITs) to detect fraud and to strengthen investigation.
- (b) Upon the provision of these additional Social Security Officer II posts, the existing SITs (at present there are two teams) will be expanded and re-organised into four teams in order to undertake defined areas of work as follows :
 - (i) two Fraud Investigation Teams to adopt a 'one-stop' service mode by taking over the investigation of all suspected fraud cases referred by 38 Social Security Field Units, and those reported to the Fraud Report Hotline as well as those through the Report Fraud Envelope;

- (ii) one Data-matching Team to strengthen data-matching including verification of information, assessment and recovery of payments with other government departments and organisations such as the Immigration Department, Lands Department, Treasury, Correctional Services Department, Student Financial Assistance Agency, etc.; and
 - (iii) one Random Check Team (RCT) to adopt a 'one-stop' approach in case checking which includes quality checking, assessment, authorisation, extension of payment in normal situations, identification of customers' welfare needs, setting up of repayment plans and recovery of overpayment. Before the formal setting up of the RCT, the cases are temporarily absorbed by the existing staff of the 38 SSFUs.
- (c) As mentioned in paragraph (b) above, each Team has to undertake its own defined areas of work and there is no overlapping of duties and responsibilities. With a new and enhanced structure in place, clear indicators would be worked out to assess and review the effectiveness of anti-fraud work.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB146

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Question Serial No.

0984

Head : 177

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

Is there a target number of patients participating in the proposed pilot Extended-care patients Intensive Treatment, Early diversion and Rehabilitation Stepping-stone (EXITERS) project? If yes, what is the target?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Hospital Authority has set the following targets for the Extended-care patients Intensive Treatment, Early Diversion and Rehabilitation Stepping Stone (EXITERS) Project:

| Year | Number of psychiatric patients to be discharged to the community through the EXITERS project |
|-----------|--|
| 2003/2004 | 100 |
| 2004/2005 | 125 |
| 2005/2006 | 150 |
| 2006/2007 | 150 |
| 2007/2008 | 150 |

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 19 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB147

Question Serial No.

1045

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

Head : 177

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

There has been a concern on the service interfacing between the pilot Extended-care patients Intensive Treatment, Early diversion and Rehabilitation Stepping-stone (EXITERS) project and the existing halfway house service, given that the three programmes are providing transitional accommodation with social rehabilitation elements to help psychiatric patients re-integrate into the community. Would the Government provide more information on the EXITERS project, including its target clientele, mode of operation, staffing support, unit cost, and outcome measurement?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

At present, the Hospital Authority (HA) offers a comprehensive range of services to patients with severe mental illness. In line with the international trend to avoid prolonged institutionalisation of mental patients and provide more psychiatric services in the community, HA will implement in 2002-03 a pilot programme, known as Extended-care patients Intensive Treatment, Early diversion and Rehabilitation Stepping-stone (EXITERS) project. The EXITERS project aims to divert a group of "extended care" patients (i.e. patients requiring longer stay of at least half a year in psychiatric hospitals) to home-like facilities for intensive rehabilitation and treatment. Patients who have the potential to live independently in the community but require significant medical attention during rehabilitation before discharge will be selected to join the pilot project. Group homes, each accommodating two to three patients, will be converted from vacant hospital quarters of Castle Peak Hospital, Kwai Chung Hospital and Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital which will be suitably renovated to provide a home-like setting. To prepare "extended care" patients for discharge from the psychiatric wards to the group homes, these patients will be trained appropriate social and occupational skills, including symptom self-management, medication management, meal preparation, money management and usage of existing community facilities. Patients under this project will be

looked after by the staff of the psychiatric units of the respective hospitals. They will stay in these supported group homes for about one year during which they will receive intensive treatment programmes (including use of newer generation of medications) and tailor-made day time programmes to enable them to acquire basic skills in leading an independent life. Arrangement will be made for these patients to return to the community after the one-year intensive programme. Appropriate support by community psychiatric nurses will be provided to patients discharged from the supported group homes.

The planned manpower requirement for this programme in 2002-03 includes six doctors, 20 nurses, 9 allied health and 35 supporting staff. The pilot project will last for five years. HA plans to start with a patient intake of 100 in 2002-03, increasing to 125 in 2003-04 and to 150 per year from 2004-05 onwards. A critical evaluation of the EXITERS project will be conducted some time in 2006 to assess its effectiveness.

The estimated cost per patient day is \$1,143.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 22 March 2002

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

HWB148

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : All

0971

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The number of posts for the Department of Health according to the revised estimate for 2002 and the estimate for 2003 are 6 519 and 6 414 respectively.

- (a) What are the relevant grades, ranks and remuneration of the 105 posts to be deleted?
- (b) What are the reasons for the deletion of posts?
- (c) What is the saving in resources after the deletion of posts?
- (d) What is the existing number of staff in each rank and the number of staff in each rank after deleting the posts?
- (e) Is there any plan to create new posts? If yes, what are the grades and the ranks?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

- (a)-(b) The Department of Health (DH) will delete a net total of 105 posts in 2002-03. Details of the post deletions and the notional annual mid-point salary (NAMS) of the posts involved are at Annexes A and B respectively.
- (c) DH will achieve a net saving of \$3.3M from the net deletion of 105 posts.
- (d) The projected changes in establishment of the ranks concerned are at Annex C.
- (e) DH will create one Medical Technologist post to strengthen the laboratory support for the food surveillance programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Details of Posts to be Deleted/Created in 2002-03

Posts to be Deleted

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Midwife | Midwife | 16 |) |
| Inoculator | Inoculator | 4 |) |
| Dental Technician | Dental Technician II | 1 |) Voluntary Retirement |
| Clerical Officer | Assistant Clerical Officer | 16 |) (The original duties |
| Clerical Assistant | Clerical Assistant | 25 |) of the posts deleted |
| Office Assistant | Office Assistant | 2 |) would be delivered |
| Telephone Operator | Telephone Operator | 2 |) through alternative |
| Laboratory Attendant | Laboratory Attendant | 1 |) means or absorbed |
| Workman II | Workman II | 1 |) by existing staff.) |
| Supplies Supervisor | Supplies Supervisor II | 1 |) |
| Confidential Assistant | Confidential Assistant | 1 |) |
| | | <hr/> | |
| | | 70 | |
| Clerical Officer |) Clerical Officer | 1 |) Enhanced efficiency |
| |) Assistant Clerical Officer | 1 |) upon the |
| Clerical Assistant | Clerical Assistant | 2 |) implementation |
| Office Assistant | Office Assistant | 1 |) of the second phase |
| Supplies Supervisor | Supplies Supervisor II | 1 |) of the Laboratory |
| Laboratory Attendant | Laboratory Attendant | 1 |) Information System |
| | | <hr/> | |
| | | 7 | |
| Chinese Language Officer | Chinese Language Officer II | 1 |) Time-limited posts |
| Clerical Officer | Assistant Clerical Officer | 14 |) for listing of |
| Clerical Assistant | Clerical Assistant | 7 |) Chinese medicine |
| Calligraphist | Calligraphist | 1 |) practitioners |
| Personal Secretary | Personal Secretary II | 4 |) |
| Workman II | Workman II | 2 |) |
| | | <hr/> | |
| | | 29 | |
| | | | |
| | | Total deletion: | 106 |

Post to be Created

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Medical Technician | Laboratory Medical Technologist | 1 |) To strengthen the |
| | | |) laboratory support |
| | | |) for food surveillance |
| | | <hr/> |) programme |
| | | | |
| | | Total creation: | 1 |
| | | Net deletion: | 105 |

**Notional Annual Mid-Point Salary (NAMS)
of the Posts to be Deleted/Created in 2002-03**

Posts to be Deleted

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>NAMS (\$)</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Midwife | Midwife | 234,120 |
| Inoculator | Inoculator | 164,940 |
| Dental Technician | Dental Technician II | 234,120 |
| Clerical Officer | Clerical Officer | 298,800 |
| | Assistant Clerical Officer | 175,740 |
| Clerical Assistant | Clerical Assistant | 145,260 |
| Office Assistant | Office Assistant | 120,240 |
| Confidential Assistant | Confidential Assistant | 210,060 |
| Chinese Language Officer | Chinese Language Officer II | 313,680 |
| Calligraphist | Calligraphist | 175,740 |
| Personal Secretary | Personal Secretary II | 186,240 |
| Telephone Operator | Telephone Operator | 154,740 |
| Supplies Supervisor | Supplies Supervisor II | 175,740 |
| Laboratory Attendant | Laboratory Attendant | 145,260 |
| Workman II | Workman II | 113,040 |

Post to be Created

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>NAMS (\$)</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Medical Laboratory Technician | Medical Technologist | 520,980 |

Projected Changes in Establishment

| <u>Rank</u> | <u>Establishment as at 1 March 2002</u> | <u>Projected establishment after post deletion</u> |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Midwife | 68 | 52 |
| Inoculator | 58 | 54 |
| Dental Technician II | 13 | 12 |
| Clerical Officer | 84 | 83 |
| Assistant Clerical Officer | 353 | 322 |
| Clerical Assistant | 596 | 562 |
| Office Assistant | 145 | 142 |
| Confidential Assistant | 4 | 3 |
| Chinese Language Officer II | 3 | 2 |
| Calligraphist | 3 | 2 |
| Personal Secretary II | 27 | 23 |
| Telephone Operator | 7 | 5 |
| Supplies Supervisor II | 23 | 21 |
| Laboratory Attendant | 75 | 73 |
| Workman II | 996 | 993 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB149

Question Serial No.

1185

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

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

Programme : 14901 Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the review of social security schemes to develop a sustainable financial support system for the needy older persons, what are the expenditure involved and the detailed plans? When will the findings of the review be announced?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : In view of the ageing of our population, we have been considering the provision of financial support for needy elders in the context of the three-pillar model recommended by the World Bank. The review of the Old Age Allowance (OAA) Scheme has been carried out in that context. Our objective is to develop a long-term sustainable safety net that better targets resources at those needy elders to meet their basic needs, and which takes account of local circumstances, especially our low and simple taxation system. How to achieve this objective is a very complex issue, which we need to further examine carefully.

Work relating to the review will be carried out using existing resources. In the Health and Welfare Bureau, this comprises part of the time of a Deputy Secretary, a Principal Assistant Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Senior Research Officer, and a Senior Statistician. We will continue to proceed with the review of the social security schemes for older persons from within existing resources in 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

Reply Serial No.

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

HWB150

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

Programme : 14901 Social Welfare

Question Serial No.

1186

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Will funds be reserved for studying whether the old age allowance should be increased? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : Work relating to the review will be carried out using existing resources. In the Health and Welfare Bureau, this comprises part of the time of a Deputy Secretary, a Principal Assistant Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Senior Research Officer, and a Senior Statistician. We will continue to proceed with the review of the social security schemes for older persons from within existing resources in 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 21 March 2002

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

HWB151

Head : 149 Government Secretariat : Health and Welfare Bureau

Question Serial No.

Subhead (No. & title) :

1282

Programme : (1) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : The provision for the Health and Welfare Bureau for 2002-03 is 48.5% higher than the revised estimate for 2001-02. This is mainly due to certain additional expenditure including the additional provision to support care services for elders. What are the details and amounts of the additional provision?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The provision for the Health and Welfare Bureau in 2002-03 for Programme (1) : Social Welfare will be increased by \$21.5M when compared with the revised estimate of 2001-02. The additional provision is for providing legal representation for children and juveniles in care or protection proceedings, for the payment of financial assistance under the "Financial Assistance Scheme for Family Members of Those Who Sacrifice Their Lives to Save Others", and to support care services for elders.

The provision to support care services for elders in 2002-03 (\$4.5M) is to support the planning and formulation of policies on care services for elders. This includes, among others, organizing workshops and symposiums; engaging consultancy services and conducting policy research and studies commissioned by the Health and Welfare Bureau and the Elderly Commission.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB152

Question Serial No.

1285

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY WRITTEN QUESTION**

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

Programme : (2) Health

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : The Administration will continue the implementation of the Enhanced Productivity Programme in the coming year, does it involve reduction of manpower and outsourcing of services? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : The Enhanced Productivity Programme in respect of Programme (2) Health will be implemented through efficiency measures to achieve savings from departmental expenses and redeployment of manpower. It will not involve reduction of manpower nor outsourcing of services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YEOH

Post Title Secretary for Health and Welfare

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB153

Question Serial No.

1098

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 2002-03, the number of foster care places under the subvented sector will increase by 130 (including 40 places to be transferred from the government sector). The cost per place per month however reduces from \$9,266 to \$8,965. Is this because the financial provision to foster care service of the subvented sector has not increased accordingly? What is its implication to foster care service?

Asked by : Hon. WU King-cheong, Henry

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) is inviting the five non-governmental organisations (NGOs) currently operating foster care service to operate an additional 60 foster care places and 30 emergency foster care places, as well as to take over 40 foster care places currently supervised by SWD from 2002-03.

The estimated reduction in unit cost in 2002-03 reflects the cost benefits derived from economy of scale as the additional foster care places will be provided by existing operators through expansion. Such expansion gives NGOs the opportunity to make use of new resources to create synergy, provide value-added services and optimise the use of their existing resources. This will in turn benefit the service as a whole.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB154

Question Serial No.

1214

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 : Under the programme "Services for Elders", the financial provision allocated to the Social Welfare Department in 2002-03 is about \$ 3.525b (Estimate) for the promotion of the welfare of elders. Please provide a breakdown of the total provision for residential care services for elders and community support services for elders respectively, and the amount of provision over the past three years.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The breakdown of the total financial provision for residential care services for elders and community support services for elders for 2002-03 and the previous three years are tabulated below:

| Type of Service | 1999-2000 (Actual Expenditure) \$m | 2000-01 (Actual Expenditure) \$m | 2001-02 (Revised Estimate) \$m | 2002-03 (Draft Estimate) \$m |
|----------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Residential Care Services | 1,591.0 | 1,762.1 | 1,978.1 | 2,246.6 |
| Community Support Services | 788.2 | 879.8 | 969.6 | 1,167.0 |
| Central Support Services | 79.7 | 98.9 | 116.9 | 111.1 |
| Total | 2,458.9 | 2,740.8 | 3,064.6 | 3,524.7 |

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

26 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB155

Question Serial No.

1215

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 2002-03, Social Welfare Department (SWD) will carry on with the “ Opportunities for the Elderly Project”. What is its financial arrangement?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : SWD has launched a three-year “Opportunities for the Elderly Project” from early 1999 to end 2001. SWD has secured an additional grant of \$4.04m from the Lotteries Fund to extend the project for one more year in 2002-03. From April 2003 onwards, the project will become a regular service provision with an annual recurrent funding of \$4m through redeployment of resources.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB156

Question Serial No.

1216

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 is the total amount of Dementia Supplement granted to residential care homes for the elderly in 2002-03 (Estimate)? Does it represent any increase over 2001-02?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2002-03, a total of \$14.29m will be allocated as Dementia Supplement to subvented residential care homes for the elderly to provide special care and training to residents assessed to be suffering from dementia, representing an increase of \$0.05m compared to \$14.24m for 2001-02.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB157

Question Serial No.

1217

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

**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 of the day care centres was over 100% for the past two years and is expected to exceed 100% as well in 2002-03. In addition to the 280 (estimate) additional places to be provided in day care centres for the elderly in 2002-03, will the Administration revise the estimated provision so as to provide more places for the elderly?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The enrolment rate of Day Care Centre for the Elderly is set at 110% in order to maximise the utilisation of the available day care places as the actual attendance rate of the enrolled elders is normally under 100%. In 2002-03, we will set up 11 day care centres for the elderly providing 280 places. As at March 2002, there are 38 day care centres/units for the elderly providing 1 480 places. In light of the recommendations of the consultancy study on provision of day and community care services, we have mapped out new strategies to provide more integrated day and community care services. Other than setting up new day care centres/units in integrated mode attached to other elderly service units, the existing 139 Home Help teams, 25 Home Care and Meal teams and 18 Enhanced Home and Community Care Services teams also provide care and support services for frail elders. We also have plans to expand Enhanced Home and Community Care Services and re-engineer the Home Help service in 2002-03 to meet the care needs of over 1 845 frail elders.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB158

Question Serial No.

1218

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 is the plan of Social Welfare Department (SWD) in promoting the concept of healthy ageing? What is the estimated amount of financial provision incurred for the year 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : To promote the concept of healthy ageing, SWD has launched a three-year Opportunities for the Elderly Project (OEP) from early 1999 to end 2001 with a grant of \$11m from the Lotteries Fund. The OEP provides subsidies to community organisations to plan and implement innovative programmes/activities to promote a sense of worthiness among elders. SWD has secured an additional grant of \$4.04m from the Lotteries Fund to extend the project for one more year in 2002-03. To tie in with the themes of the Healthy Ageing Campaign launched by the Elderly Commission (EC), the OEP will emphasise the promotion of healthy and active ageing in 2002-03.

In addition, SWD will continue to support as appropriate new initiatives to be launched by the EC in the Healthy Ageing Campaign in 2002-03.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB159

Question Serial No.

1219

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : Has the Social Welfare Department planned to launch publicity programmes on the prevention of elder abuse? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure incurred for the year 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Publicity and community education programmes on the prevention of elder abuse are part and parcel of the services provided by social centres/multi-service centres/support teams for the elderly and other support programmes. As such, the resources used and the expenditure specifically relating to publicity activities on prevention of elder abuse cannot be separately ascertained. In addition to these programmes, \$5.4m from the Lotteries Fund has been provided to Caritas - Hong Kong and Haven of Hope Christian Service to implement two three-year pilot projects designated to combat elder abuse starting April 2001. These two projects provide various types of services which, inter alia, include publicity/community education programmes. Between April and December 2001, 166 community education programmes were organised. Moreover, the Hong Kong Christian Service has also been granted \$2.3m from the Lotteries Fund to, among others, conduct a research on elder abuse in Hong Kong in 2002. Seminars and briefing sessions relating to the findings of the research will also be organised to promote awareness and concern of the professionals involved in handling elder abuse. Lastly, the Social Welfare Department has created a non-recurrent commitment of \$1.9m

to launch a publicity campaign in 2002-03 to enhance publicity and community education to strengthen families and protect children against abuse and violence. Prevention of elder abuse will also be one of the issues to be addressed in this campaign.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB160

Question Serial No.

1291

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 caseload of and Government expenditure on the various types of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases, including those of old age, disabled, ill health, single parent, low earnings, unemployment and others for the past two financial years? What is the estimated number of and provision for the various types of cases in 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The average number of cases with authorised payment, and estimated expenditure for the financial year 2000-01 and 2001-02 are as follows:

| <u>Nature of case</u> | <u>2000-01</u> | | <u>2001-02*</u> | |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | <u>Average number of cases with authorised payment</u> | <u>Expenditure (\$b)</u> | <u>Average number of cases with authorised payment</u> | <u>Expenditure (\$b)</u> |
| Old Age | 126 888 | 7.2 | 130 801 | 6.8 |
| Permanent Disability | 11 168 | 0.7 | 12 391 | 0.7 |
| Temporary Disability/Ill Health | 17 524 | 1.3 | 17 281 | 1.2 |
| Single Parent Family | 23 475 | 2.3 | 25 319 | 2.2 |
| Low Earnings | 7 302 | 0.6 | 7 476 | 0.6 |
| Unemployment | 18 462 | 1.3 | 19 730 | 1.3 |
| Others | 3 285 | 0.2 | 3 085 | 0.2 |
| Total | 208 104 | 13.6 | 216 083 | 13.0 |

* Up to February 2002. Excluding payments for 1.4.2001 already paid in 2000-01.

The projected average number of cases with authorised payment and the projected CSSA expenditure by nature of case for 2002-03 are:

| <u>Nature of case</u> | <u>Projected average number of cases with authorised payment in 2002-03</u> | <u>Projected CSSA expenditure in 2002-03</u> \$b |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Old Age | 136 000 | 7.8 |
| Permanent Disability | 13 100 | 0.8 |
| Temporary Disability/Ill Health | 17 700 | 1.4 |
| Single Parent Family | 28 400 | 2.8 |
| Low Earnings | 8 800 | 0.8 |
| Unemployment | 31 900 | 2.2 |
| Others | 3 200 | 0.2 |
| Total | 239 100 | 16.0 |

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB161

Question Serial No.

1292

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 cases served under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) scheme in 2002-03 will see an increase of 33 900 (a growth of 5.6%) over that of 2001-02. What is the reason for the increase?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The increase in the projected number of cases to be served under the SSA Scheme in 2002-03 is mainly due to increases in the projected number of cases served under the category of Higher Old Age Allowance (+9.0%) and Normal Disability Allowance (+6.6%). It should however be noted that "cases served" refer to the active caseload at the beginning of the financial year plus new and reactivated applications received during the year. The figure is therefore not equivalent to the number of cases authorised for payment at any point in time.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB162

Question Serial No.

1293

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

**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 applicants for Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) and Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) in the past two financial years and what is the Government's financial commitment involved? What is the estimated number of applicants and expenditure for each type of allowance in 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The average number of recipients of HOAA and NOAA and the expenditure involved in 2000-01 and 2001-02 are as follows :

| | <u>2000-01</u> | |
|------|---|---------------------------|
| | <u>Average number of recipients</u> | <u>Actual expenditure</u> |
| | | \$b |
| HOAA | 308 700 | 2.6 |
| NOAA | 126 800 | 1.0 |

| | <u>2001-02</u> | |
|------|---|-------------------------|
| | <u>Estimated average number of recipients</u> | <u>Revised estimate</u> |
| | | \$b |
| HOAA | 325 000 | 2.8 |
| NOAA | 119 900 | 0.9 |

The projected average number of recipients of HOAA and NOAA and the corresponding expenditure in 2002-03 are as follows :

| | <u>2002-03</u> | |
|------|---|------------------------------|
| | <u>Projected average number of recipients</u> | <u>Projected expenditure</u> |
| | | \$b |
| HOAA | 368 600 | 3.1 |
| NOAA | 119 400 | 0.9 |

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB163

Question Serial No.

1302

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : Last year, the Social Welfare Department planned to provide seven additional social centres for the elderly (S/Es) in the year of 2001-02, whereas the present estimation of the same financial year for the same financial year is five only. What is the reason for that?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : For monitoring purpose, one multi-service centre for the elderly (M/E) is counted as two social centres for the elderly (S/Es) in terms of its expanded membership and services. The 2001-02 original plan was to commission three M/Es and one S/E. Two M/Es and one S/E have been put into operation within 2001-02. In light of the recommendations of the consultancy study on the provision of day and community services, we have mapped out new strategies to provide integrated community care facilities and services for elders. The remaining M/E will be commissioned in integrated mode in 2002-03.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB164

Question Serial No.

1303

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 are the respective locations of the ten additional social centres for the elderly scheduled to be provided in 2002-03 and what is the estimated expenditure incurred? What measures are in place to ensure the timely implementation of the schedule?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The ten additional social centres for the elderly (S/E) comprise the provision of three multi-service centres for the elderly (M/E) and four S/Es. For monitoring purpose, one M/E is counted as two S/Es in terms of its expanded membership and programmes. In light of the recommendations of the consultancy study on the provision of day and community services, we have mapped out new strategies to provide integrated care facilities and services for elders. Projects in 2002-03 will be commissioned in integrated mode in the form of District Elderly Community Centre (DECC) or Neighbourhood Elderly Centre (NEC).

The respective locations of the new units are as follows:

- (1) M/E (i.e. DECC) at Tak Tin Estate, Kwun Tong (attached to a residential care home for the elderly)
- (2) M/E (i.e. DECC) at Kam Tai Court, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin
- (3) M/E (i.e. DECC) at Shan King Estate, Tuen Mun
- (4) S/E (i.e. NEC) at Tin Yuet Estate, Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long

- (5) S/E (i.e. NEC) at Fu Tai Estate, Tuen Mun
- (6) S/E (i.e. NEC) at Chung On Estate, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin
- (7) S/E (i.e. NEC) at Yu Chui Court, Yuen Chau Kok, Sha Tin

The estimated provision for these seven new service units in 2002-03 will be \$17.7m.

Quality-based proposals will be invited from non-governmental organisations for operating the six service units except the one at Tak Tin Estate which will be integrated with a residential care project for competitive bidding through open tendering. Strict compliance with the planned service implementation date is stipulated in the service specification as a requirement for the potential bidders. We will also closely monitor the implementation schedule.

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| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB165

Question Serial No.

1304

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 actual number of additional multi-service centres for the elderly (M/Es) for 2000-01 is two less than that of the initial plan in 2000. Also, the number (estimate) of additional centres for 2001-02 reduces by one as compared against the number (plan) for the same year. What accounts for the difference?
- (b) What are the respective locations of the three additional M/Es and what is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

- (a) In 2000-01, there were three M/Es planned for operation. The implementation of two M/Es was put on hold pending the recommendations of the consultancy study on the provision of day and community services while the other one, which was under construction at the time, commenced operation as a M/E as scheduled. For the remaining two M/Es, the one in Tung Chung new town has commenced operation in 2001-02 as part of an integrated service centre serving local residents of all ages. The one in Sha Tin will be developed into a District Elderly Community Centre (DECC) to provide expanded functions to the elders in the community. The project is undergoing the process of invitation of quality-based proposals, and will only commence operation in the third quarter of 2002-03. The revised estimated

number of additional M/Es for 2001-02 is therefore reduced by one.

- (b) The locations of the three M/Es for 2002-03 are as follows:
- (i) M/E (i.e. DECC) at Tak Tin Estate, Kwun Tong (attached to a residential care home for the elderly)
 - (ii) M/E (i.e. DECC) at Kam Tai Court, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin
 - (iii) M/E (i.e. DECC) at Shan King Estate, Tuen Mun

The estimated provision for these three projects in 2002-03 will be \$12.1m.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB166

Question Serial No.

1305

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 are the respective locations of and the estimated expenditure for the 11 additional day care centres for the elderly in 2002-03? What measures are in place to ensure the timely implementation of the plan?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The respective locations of the 11 additional day care centres/units for the elderly in 2002-03 are as follows:

- (1) Belcher Gardens, Western District
- (2) Lok Wah Estate, Kwun Tong
- (3) Tak Tin Estate, Kwun Tong
- (4) Kwai Shing Estate, Kwai Tsing
- (5) Sheung Tak Estate, Tseung Kwan O
- (6) Choi Hung Estate, Wong Tai Sin
- (7) Tsz Ching Estate, Wong Tai Sin
- (8) Fortune Street, Shum Shui Po
- (9) Fu Cheong Estate, Cheung Sha Wan, Shum Shui Po
- (10) Kam Tai Court, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin
- (11) Shan King Estate, Tuen Mun

Except for day care units of items (3) and (7) which are attached to residential care projects planned for open bidding, invitation for quality-based proposals from non-governmental organisations has been launched for operating these day service units. Strict compliance with the planned service implementation date is stipulated in the

service specification as a requirement for the potential bidders. We will also closely monitor the implementation schedule.

The estimated provision for these 11 day care centres/units for the elderly in 2002-03 will be \$16.6m.

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Reply Serial No.

HWB167

Question Serial No.

1313

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : An additional 675 places of care-and-attention homes and 1 155 places of private care homes bought under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme will be provided in the year 2002-03. What are the respective financial commitments for these places?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The breakdown of the respective financial commitments are as follows:

| Type of Services | 2002-03 Part Year \$m | Full Year \$m |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 675 care-and-attention home places (including in-situ expansion, and conversion from home for the aged places) | 38.5 | 41.6 |
| 1 155 places under Enhanced Bought Place Scheme | 39.3 | 77.0 |
| Total | 77.8 | 118.6 |

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB168

Question Serial No.

1314

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 is the estimated expenditure involved in 2002-03 on the provision of Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS)?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : To meet the increased demand for EHCCS, we have allocated an additional provision of \$17.5m for in-situ expansion of the existing 18 EHCCS teams from January 2002 on top of the original contract sum of \$63m allocated to the service operators. In addition, we have earmarked about \$90m to expand further EHCCS and to re-engineer existing home help teams in 2002-03.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB169

Question Serial No.

1315

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 is the total number of training places provided for professional and non-professional staff serving demented elders in 2002-03? What is the provision (estimate) for this?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2002-03, a total of 200 and 160 training places on dementia care will be provided for the professional staff (eg. social workers, para-medical professions, etc.) and non-professional staff (eg. care workers and home helpers, etc.) respectively. The cost for these training courses is estimated at \$176,000.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB170

Question Serial No.

1316

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

**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 2002-03, the Social Welfare Department will incorporate carer support into various types of care services for elders. What are the estimated expenditure incurred and the specifics of the programme?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Since 2001-02, carer support service has become part and parcel of the service components of service units for elders in the new neighbourhood elderly centres, district elderly community centres, day care centres for the elderly, home care teams, enhanced home and community care service teams, and residential care homes for the elderly. The service includes provision of carer support training, mutual help groups, loan and demonstration on use of rehabilitative aids and programmes to alleviate carers' stress, etc.. As it is part and parcel of the service components, there is no separate expenditure provision on carer support service.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB171

Question Serial No.

1327

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 Social Welfare Department's estimated expenditure for implementing Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) for Elderly Persons Retiring to Guangdong Province in 2002-03? What is the financial commitment involved in providing burial grants and better escort service to the participants?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated total expenditure on PCSSA payments for the year 2002-03 is \$99m, including burial grants of \$0.6m. A non-governmental organisation has been commissioned as the Social Welfare Department's agent to provide escort and other services for the participants and help with processing applications for burial grant. The contract fee for the year 2002-03 is \$1.9m.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB172

Question Serial No.

1328

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 for the past three years of the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients with five years' residence and below by their years of residence in Hong Kong, and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : We have only started to collect statistics on the number of CSSA paid cases with new arrivals who had resided in Hong Kong for less than five years and one year as from 2000-01. Since then, we have also started to collect information on CSSA recipients with lengths of residence between two and four years as from 2001-02.

Based on available information, the statistics for 2000-01 are as follows:

| <u>New arrivals having resided in HK for less than</u> | <u>2000-01</u> | <u>Estimated amount of CSSA paid</u> (\$m) |
|--|---|---|
| | <u>Average no. of CSSA cases having such new arrivals</u> | |
| 5 years | 19 500 | 1,966 |
| 1 year | 400 | 44 |

Estimated amount of CSSA paid to such cases for 2001-02 is not available, but the average number of cases (up of February 2002) is shown below:

| <u>New arrivals having resided in HK for less than</u> | <u>2001-02 Average number of CSSA cases having such new arrivals</u> |
|--|--|
| 5 years | 21 000 |
| 4 years | 16 600 |
| 3 years | 11 100 |
| 2 years | 5 000 |
| 1 year | 800 |

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| Signature | <hr/> |
| Name in block letters | Mrs Carrie LAM |
| Post Title | <hr/> Director of Social Welfare |
| Date | <hr/> 26 March 2002 |

Reply Serial No.

HWB173

Question Serial No.

1375

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**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 : Has the Administration evaluated on the value for money effectiveness of the various measures assisting the unemployed (including the Active Employment Assistance (AEA) programme, Community Work (CW) programme, the Special Job Attachment Programme (SJAP), Intensive Employment Assistance Fund (IEAF), Pilot Job Matching Programme, etc.)? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : The Support for Self-reliance (SFS) Scheme consisting of AEA and CW programmes and other employment assistance programmes aim to encourage and help unemployed Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients rejoin the workforce and move towards self-reliance. The effectiveness of the SFS Scheme can be reflected by the success rate of its participants having secured employment. On a cumulative basis over a period of two and a half years, 13% of the participants of the AEA programme under the SFS Scheme have found a job, compared with the success rate of 1% per year prior to introduction of the Scheme.

As at the end of January 2002, on a cumulative basis, there were 69 406 able-bodied recipients enrolled in the AEA programme and 39 820 recipients have de-registered for various reasons including finding a job. Of those who have found a job after participating in the AEA programme, 3 567 have left the CSSA net while 5 368 have changed from the 'unemployed' to 'low earnings' category.

The SJAP and IEAF are further initiatives providing more direct employment assistance for those who experience particular difficulties in returning to employment. As at the end of January 2002, after about one year of operation, 26% and 44% of participants under the SJAP and IEAF projects have found a job. Among them, 138 CSSA recipients have left the CSSA net and 125 CSSA recipients are receiving less CSSA payment by moving from the 'unemployed' to the 'low earnings' category. These programmes also assisted some 638 non-CSSA unemployed persons who would otherwise have to resort to CSSA in securing jobs.

The Pilot Job Matching Programme was an initiative implemented on a pilot basis by the Social Welfare Department, Labour Department and the Employees Retraining Board from June 2000 to December 2000. It aimed to assist CSSA recipients to move back to work through the provision of up-to-date market information, retraining and intensive job matching services. 23 of the 179 CSSA recipients (13%) who participated in the six-month programme had secured employment. 65% of the jobs secured had a salary range of \$5,000 to \$8,000 a month. Generally speaking, they have produced effective results.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | <u>Mrs Carrie LAM</u> |
| Post Title | <u>Director of Social Welfare</u> |
| Date | <u>26 March 2002</u> |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

Under the item of indicator for the manpower of the Hospital Authority in 2002-03, both the "allied health" and "others" staff will be increased. Please provide the following information:

- (1) Specify the grades, the number of staff in each grade and their respective salaries and benefits for the "allied health" professionals.
- (2) What do the "others" staff refer to?

Asked by : Hon. MAK kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

- (1) The projected manpower requirement for allied health staff in 2002-03 broken down by rank, with projected expenditure on personal emoluments (salary and allowance) are set out below :

| Grade | Number of posts | Salary and Allowance (\$M) |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Audiology Technician | 11 | 5.1 |
| Clinical Psychologist | 66 | 47.0 |
| Dental Technician | 2 | 0.8 |
| Dietitian | 85 | 40.6 |
| Dispenser | 672 | 208.7 |
| Medical Laboratory Technician | 1 099 | 484.8 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Mould Laboratory Technician | 28 | 9.8 |
| Medical Social Worker | 166 | 74.0 |
| Optometrist | 26 | 8.0 |
| Orthoptist | 12 | 5.0 |
| Occupational Therapist | 469 | 200.1 |
| Pharmacist | 198 | 134.1 |
| Physicist | 39 | 32.8 |
| Podiatrist | 24 | 8.5 |
| Prosthetist-Orthotist | 98 | 41.0 |
| Physiotherapist | 713 | 316.4 |
| Radiographer | 819 | 401.2 |
| Scientific Officer | 56 | 42.4 |
| Speech Therapist | 55 | 21.6 |
| TOTAL | 4 638 | 2,081.9 |

Allied health staff, like all staff of the Hospital Authority, are entitled to the following benefits package :

- (a) Monthly cash allowance in addition to basic salary
- (b) Provident Fund Scheme - For permanent employees, HA contributes 15% of basic salary or provides an equivalent contribution to the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme
- (c) Contract Gratuity and Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme - For contract employees, totalling 15% of basic salary
- (d) Annual leave of 14-28 days per year depending on rank and years of service
- (e) Free medical outpatient and hospitalisation benefits for employees and eligible family members
- (f) Free dental benefits for employees and eligible family members
- (g) Home Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme
- (h) Death Benefits
- (i) Disability Benefits
- (j) Employees' Compensation
- (k) Professional indemnity insurance
- (l) Other leave, including sick leave, maternity leave, compassionate leave, study leave

- (2) The “others” category include management and other professional staff (such as Chief Executive, Directors, Deputy Directors, Cluster Chief Executives, Hospital Chief Executives, Executive Managers, General Managers, Accountants, Analyst Programmers, Executive Officers, Hospital Administrators, Architects, Engineers, Statisticians, Catering Managers, Librarians and Supplies Officers), and general supporting staff (such as secretarial and clerical staff, Health Care Assistants, Ward Attendants, Technical Services Assistants, General Services Assistants, Workmen and Artisans).

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**Head : 177 Subhead (No. & title) : 514 and 979 Hospital AuthorityProgramme : Subvention: Hospital AuthorityControlling Officer : Secretary for Health & WelfareBureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & WelfareQuestion :

Please list the public hospitals in which the 366 new beds and 80 new day places will be allocated in 2002-03.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, FredReply :

The details of new beds and day hospital places to be opened in 2002-03 are given below :

I. In-patient Beds

| Hospital | Care type | Number of new beds |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| United Christian Hospital | General | 91 |
| North District Hospital | General | 4 |
| Tuen Mun Hospital | General | 9 |
| Pok Oi Hospital - Tin Ka Ping Centre | Infirmery | 100 |
| Kowloon Hospital | Mentally Ill | 162 |
| Total : | | 366 |

II. Day Hospital Places

| Hospital | Type | Number of new places |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| North District Hospital | Geriatric | 40 |
| North District Hospital | Psychiatric | 40 |
| Total : | | 80 |

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 19 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

HWB176

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**Head : 177Subhead (No. & title) : 514 and 979 Hospital Authority

1181

Programme : Subvention : Hospital AuthorityControlling Officer : Secretary for Health and WelfareBureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and WelfareQuestion :

What measures will be taken by the Hospital Authority to help United Christian Hospital achieve the 2% EPP savings? What new services will be provided by the hospital in 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, FredReply :

The 2% EPP savings in respect of the United Christian Hospital (UCH) will be achieved by optimisation of bed utilisation, centralisation of cluster procurement and finance functions, implementation of energy conservation programmes, and redesigning job duties to maximise efficiency in 2002-03.

New programmes to be implemented at UCH in 2002-03 include:

- (1) opening 68 new acute beds to cope with the increase in patient volume;
- (2) opening 23 new rehabilitation beds to improve orthopaedic rehabilitation for the Kowloon East Cluster;
- (3) improving quality of service through the formation of cluster sub-specialty clinical teams to facilitate the sharing of expertise among clinical staff and to rationalize service provision;
- (4) implementing measures to further enhance risk management, such as introducing 24-hour toxicology test service and setting referral criteria for urgent referral cases from the Accident & Emergency Department to the Specialist Out-patient Departments; and

- (5) improving ambulatory care services to reduce the unplanned readmission rate of medical and geriatric patients. Measures adopted include developing clinical guidelines for certain post-discharge patient groups, and adopting case management model for targeted patients.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 20 March 2002

Reply Serial No.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

HWB177

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

Question Serial No.

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

1212

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the transfer of administration of general outpatient clinics from the Department of Health to the Hospital Authority, what is the provision required ? Will it involve a reduction of manpower and contract out of service ? If yes, please elaborate.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Government is now working with the Hospital Authority (HA) on the implementation plan of the transfer of all general outpatient clinics from the Department of Health to HA, including the detailed financial and manpower arrangements and the amount of resources that will be transferred from the Government to the Hospital Authority.

The implementation plan does not include the option to contract out the clinic services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB178

Question Serial No.

1240

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

What is the reason for the drastic increase in the estimated attendances at general outpatient clinics in 2002-03? What is the additional amount that the Government will have to spend correspondingly? What is the average waiting time at present ?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

To enhance primary medical care through the promotion of family medicine practice, we embarked on a pilot scheme to transfer five General Out-patient Clinics (GOPCs) from Department of Health (DH) to the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2001-02. The transfer of the five GOPCs, to be effected by phases in the latter half of 2001/02, would be completed by end March 2002 upon the transfer of the fifth GOPC from DH to HA. The projected increase in the GOPC attendances in 2002-03 is mainly due to the additional output of these five GOPCs upon completion of the transfer in 2001/02. The projection is made on the basis that attendances in these five GOPCs will be maintained at the same level after the transfer. The GOPC attendances under DH have been reduced in 2002-03 to take into account the transfer of these five clinics to HA.

The total operating cost of the five GOPCs in HA is \$115M in 2002-03.

Similar to the operations of other GOPCs, patients in these five GOPCs are attended to in the same consultation session after registration.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 23 March 2002

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

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

Programme : Subventions: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

What is the reason for the increase in the estimated A&E attendances in 2002-03? Please list the number of attendances for each priority service category and their corresponding percentage in the A&E attendances in 2001.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The projected increase in Accident & Emergency (A&E) attendances in 2002-03 is 1.18%, which is in line with the population growth in Hong Kong.

Details of attendances at A&E Departments in 2001 by triage categories are as follows:

| Triage Category | No. of first attendances at A&E Departments | Percentage of Total attendances |
|------------------------|--|--|
| 1 - Critical cases | 14 646 | 0.6% |
| 2 - Emergency cases | 41 984 | 1.7% |
| 3 - Urgent cases | 521 524 | 21.6% |
| 4 - Semi-urgent cases | 1 450 365 | 60.2% |
| 5 - Non-urgent cases | 351 118 | 14.6% |
| Unclassified | 31 049 | 1.3% |
| Total : | 2 410 686 | 100% |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date 20 March 2002

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB180

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

Question Serial No.

1297

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

Does the Authority expect that the working hours of doctors will decrease as a result of the recruitment of 270 doctors for the coming year? If so, what is the target figure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Hospital Authority (HA) is committed to tackling the problem of long working hours of public doctors. HA has implemented various measures to address the problem of long working hours of public hospital of doctors, including issuing guidelines to all public hospitals on the work hour arrangements of doctors, requiring hospital management to report on the call frequency, statutory holiday, rest day arrangements and post-call compensatory off arrangement, and recruiting 312 doctors in 2000-01 and another 303 doctors in 2001-02 to alleviate the workload of doctors. Considerable progress has been made. The average on-call frequency of frontline doctors and interns is no more than once in every three days. HA is able to comply fully with the statutory requirement relating to the provision of statutory holidays to doctors on residential calls.

With the recruitment of 270 additional doctors in 2002-03, the working hours of doctors will be further improved. The working hours of doctors in public hospitals is determined by many factors, including patient volume, number of doctors on the call roster and their on-call frequency, and the training requirement of doctors. Also the working hours of doctors have to depend on the work arrangements of the department which he/she works in. As such, no target has been set on working hours of doctors.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 22 March 2002

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

HWB181

Head : 177

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

Programme :

Subvention : Hospital Authority

Question Serial No.

1307

Controlling Officer :

Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary :

Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

What is the provision for sponsoring 200 nurses to take up conversion courses in tertiary education institutions? What are the application requirements and criteria for the sponsorship?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Hospital Authority (HA) has budgeted in 2002-03 \$1 million to sponsor 200 qualified nurses to take up conversion courses in tertiary education institutions. Each successful applicant will be sponsored \$5,000 in the form of partial reimbursement of course fees. Recipients for sponsorship are selected among serving Enrolled Nurses or Registered Nurses based on the following criteria:

- (i) The applicant is currently taking a conversion course or has completed a conversion course in the 2001-02 academic year;
- (ii) The applicant is not under any conversion course sponsorship in the 2001-02 academic year or has not taken more than 14 days of study leave in 2002;
- (iii) The applicant is not under any post-training obligation arising from another training programme; and
- (iv) The applicant has not previously received any sponsorship for conversion programme leading to the same academic qualification from either the employing hospital or the HA Head Office.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____

22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

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

Programme : Subvention: Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question :

The Administration intends to employ 1 000 care assistants to strengthen the provision of extended care services in public hospitals. What are their rank(s) and scope of duties?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

It is envisaged that most of the care assistants will be employed as General Service Assistants. Some may be appointed in other supporting ranks such as Technical Service Assistant.

The duties of care assistants include :

- (a) to provide basic personal care to extended care patients;
- (b) to assist health care professionals in the provision of extended care services in the ward and other health care setting; and
- (c) to relieve health care professionals from simple and routine care duties.

Signature

Name in block letters

Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title

Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date

March 2002

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

HWB183

Head : 177 Subventions: non-departmental public bodies

Question Serial No.

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

1321

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : The Community Geriatric Assessment Team expects to provide 330 200 numbers of outreach services attendances in 2002-03. What is the budget for this item?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The total cost on Community Geriatric Assessment Teams by the Hospital Authority is estimated to be around \$149.8 million in 2002/03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**Head : 177Subhead (No. & title) : 514 and 979 Hospital AuthorityProgramme : Subvention: Hospital AuthorityControlling Officer : Secretary for Health and WelfareBureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and WelfareQuestion :

The Hospital Authority plans to provide Chinese medicine outpatient services under the public medical system in 2002-03. Please provide details. What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chungReply :

It is our objective to facilitate the development of standards of practice of Chinese medicine and models of interface between western and Chinese medicines. For this, good clinical research will be needed to provide the evidence for future practice. The Hospital Authority (HA) is discussing with relevant non-governmental organisations and tertiary institutions offering programmes in Chinese medicine with a view to working out the most appropriate partnership arrangement for the provision of Chinese medicine services. We will aim at a geographical distribution of clinics to serve the population in different districts.

\$51 million have been earmarked in 2002-03 for the development of Chinese medicine in HA.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K YeohPost Title Secretary for Health and WelfareDate March 2002

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) What is the geographical distribution of the 10 hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres to be established in the coming year? Have the authorities set a target on the number of smokers to be reduced after the establishment of the smoking counselling and cessation centres? If yes, what is the target? If not, what are the reasons?
- (b) What are the expenditure and staffing establishment of the 10 hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres proposed in the Budget?
- (c) Will this proposal put forward by the Hospital Authority overlap the counselling services offered to smokers by the Department of Health? How will these two agencies coordinate the delivery of services to smokers?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) Amongst the ten hospital and community-based smoking counselling and cessation centres to be established by the Hospital Authority (HA), five will be hospital-affiliated while the remaining five will be operated in general outpatient clinics (GOPCs). The geographical distribution of the ten centres are presented below:

| Hospital Cluster | Centre | No. of Centres |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Hong Kong West | Sai Ying Pun GOPC | 1 |
| Hong Kong East | Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital | 1 |
| Kowloon Central | Queen Elizabeth Hospital | 1 |
| Kowloon West | East Kowloon GOPC | 1 |
| Kowloon East | Tseung Kwan O GOPC | 1 |
| New Territories South | Princess Margaret Hospital, Cheung Sha Wan GOPC | 2 |
| New Territories East | North District Hospital | 1 |
| New Territories North | Tuen Mun Hospital, Yan Oi GOPC | 2 |
| Total: | | 10 |

Instead of setting a target on the number of smokers to be reduced after the establishment of the centres, the performance of these centres will be measured by the following indicators: telephone enquiry – 2,500 per centre per year, telephone counselling – 1,000 per centre per year, number of clients attending smoking cessation sessions – 500 per centre per year. The targeted success rate of quitting in one month has also been set at 25%, which is considered a reasonable and realistic target having regard to overseas experience.

- (b) For 2002-03, a total of \$16.8 million, which comprises \$14.8 million recurrent funding and \$2 million set-up cost, was included in 2002-03 draft Estimate for the provision of smoking counselling and cessation services in the ten centres. The manpower requirement for the programmes is 30, which includes 20 nurses and 10 other staff members.
- (c) The smoking counselling and cessation centres to be established by HA will target at inpatients and outpatients of public hospitals who are either at the acute or recovery phase of their illnesses, whereas the smoking cessation counselling services offered by the Department of Health target at patients attending its GOPCs. Since

they capture prospective quitters who are in need of different medical treatment due to different illnesses, there will be no overlapping of services being offered by them.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date March 2002

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

HWB186

Head : 177 Subventions: non-departmental public bodies

Question Serial No.

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

1333

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health & Welfare

Question : It is estimated that the psychogeriatric teams will provide 39 140 outreach services attendances in 2002-03. What is the budgeted provision for such services? What is the manpower involved in providing the services?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated total cost on outreaching activities of the psychogeriatric service in 2002/03 is \$36 million. Eleven medical, 22 nursing and 4 allied health staff will be deployed to provide the services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ March 2002

Reply Serial No.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03

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

HWB187

Head : 177

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

Programme : Subvention : Hospital Authority

Question Serial No.

Controlling Officer : Secretary for Health and Welfare

1334

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

The Hospital Authority plans to set up multi-disciplinary teams in 2002-03 to work on suicide prevention for elderly with mental illness and previous suicidal attempts. Please give the details of the plan and the staff provision involved.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

In 2002-03, the Hospital Authority plans to set up five elderly suicide prevention teams to be based at Castle Peak Hospital, Kwai Chung Hospital, Shatin Hospital, Pamela Youde Nethersole Hospital and Kowloon Hospital to enhance prevention services in elderly suicides. The elderly suicide prevention programme will focus on prevention and early detection and will be operated as a two tier service. The first tier involves early detection and screening of elderly patients with depression and suicidal risk in the community. Patients screened to have high risk for suicide will then be referred to psycho-geriatricians for treatment at fast track clinics to ensure timely intervention. It is estimated that the five teams will treat about 700 elderly patients with suicidal risks annually.

Seven doctors and 15 nurses will be deployed to launch the programme in 2002-03.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Dr E K Yeoh

Post Title _____ Secretary for Health & Welfare

Date _____ 20 March 2002

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

HWB188

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative Care

1348

8 Personnel Management of Civil Servants Working in Hospital Authority

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) How many healthcare personnel will be affected by the proposed transfer of general out-patient clinics from the Department of Health (DH) to the Hospital Authority (HA)? What is their respective establishment?
- (b) Are there plans to encourage former DH staff to be employed by HA? If yes, what are the specific plans and the resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The establishment of the 59 general out-patient clinics is 1 296 analysed at Appendix.

The Department of Health is working with the parties concerned on the staffing arrangements including the option for the affected staff to take up Hospital Authority employment. Details will be announced in the second quarter of 2002 for staff consultation. The transfer exercise will be conducted through redeployment of resources and will not incur additional expenditure on the Government.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Establishment of the 59 General Out-patient Clinics

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Establishment</u> |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Medical | 175 |
| Nursing | 364 |
| Allied Health | 210 |
| Clerical | 189 |
| Other Supporting | <u>358</u> |
| Total | 1 296 |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB189

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 8 Personnel Management of Civil Servants
Working in Hospital Authority

1349

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question :

- (a) In Programme (8), it is estimated that the number of civil servants working in the Hospital Authority (HA) will drop from 4 905 in 2001-02 to 4 243 in the next financial year. However, as a result of the proposed transfer of general out-patient clinics to HA, there should be a considerable number of civil servants working in the Department of Health transferred to HA. What is the basis of the estimated staff reduction under the programme?
- (b) It is estimated that the number of civil servants working in the Hospital Authority will decrease from 4 905 in 2001 to 4 243 in 2002. What are the posts to be deleted?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) The number of civil servants working in the Hospital Authority (HA) is expected to drop from 4 905 in 2001 to 4 243 in 2002 because of normal retirement, retirement under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme and other wastage factors. No general out-patient clinics will be transferred to HA in 2002-03.
- (b) Details of posts to be deleted are provided in the Appendix.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

**Composition of civil service posts deleted
due to various wastage factors in 2001-02**

| Rank | No. |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Consultant D4 | 1 |
| Senior Nursing Officer (Psychiatric) | 1 |
| Medical and Health Officer | 4 |
| Ward Manager (Psychiatric) | 1 |
| Nursing Officer (Psychiatric) | 3 |
| Ward Manager | 6 |
| Nurse Specialist | 1 |
| Nursing Officer | 15 |
| Clinical Psychologist | 1 |
| Scientific Officer (Medical) | 1 |
| Senior Dispenser | 2 |
| Senior Clerical Officer | 1 |
| Registered Nurse (Psychiatric) | 1 |
| Registered Nurse | 6 |
| Senior Foreman | 2 |
| Operating Theatre Assistant | 8 |
| Senior Artisan | 3 |
| Enrolled Nurse (Psychiatric) | 6 |
| Occupational Therapy Assistant | 3 |
| Foreman | 3 |
| Hospital Foreman | 3 |
| X-Ray Mechanic | 1 |
| Enrolled Nurse | 10 |
| Midwife | 6 |
| Artisan | 27 |
| Cook | 48 |
| Darkroom Technician | 8 |
| Head Property Attendant | 4 |
| Laboratory Attendant | 17 |
| Laundry Worker | 2 |
| Health Care Assistant | 9 |
| Barber | 1 |
| Ganger | 3 |
| Property Attendant | 19 |
| Ward Attendant | 265 |
| Workman I | 22 |
| Workman II | 148 |
| Total : | 662 |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB190

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

1342

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Will the Administration inform this Council of the following :

- (a) Please provide the names and functions of those committees established under this programme, as well as the honorarium, if any, of their chairmen and members.
- (b) What are the expenditure and establishment of the Department of Health in the last and coming year in supporting the operation of these committees?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) Names and functions of statutory committees established under Programme (1):

| <u>Statutory Committees</u> | <u>Main Functions</u> |
|---|--|
| Medical Council of Hong Kong | - Registration and discipline of respective healthcare professionals |
| Dental Council of Hong Kong | |
| Nursing Council of Hong Kong | |
| Midwives Council of Hong Kong | |
| Supplementary Medical Professions Council | |
| - Medical Laboratory Technologists Board | |
| - Occupational Therapists Board | |
| - Optometrists Board | - Registration and discipline of pharmacists and traders of pharmaceutical products - Regulatory control of pharmaceutical products |
| - Radiographers Board | |
| - Physiotherapists Board | |
| Chiropractors Council | - Regulatory control of radioactive substances and irradiating apparatus |
| Pharmacy & Poisons Board | |
| Radiation Board | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Human Organ Transplant Board | - Considering applications for living non-related transplants |
| Council on Human Reproductive Technology | - Regulating reproductive technology procedures, embryo research and surrogacy arrangements |
| The Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong | - Registration and discipline of Chinese medicine practitioners and traders of Chinese medicinal products - Regulatory control of Chinese medicinal products |

No honorarium is paid to the Chairmen and members of the committees.

- (b) The recurrent expenditure for providing secretarial support to these committees in 2001-02 and 2002-03 is about \$38.6M per year. The number of staff in 2001-02 and 2002-03 is 109 and 117 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB191

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

1335

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Is there any plan for promoting the oral health service for the elderly in the coming year? What is the relevant expenditure and breakdown?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Department will step up efforts in oral health promotion to the elderly through the Oral Health Education Unit in collaboration with the Elderly Health Services, the private sector and other non-governmental organisations. The expenditure is included in the existing allocation of Oral Health Education Unit and Elderly Health Services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB192

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

1329

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated expenditure, establishment and unit cost per service of the pilot men's health programme?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The men's health programme is to promote the health and well-being of men in Hong Kong, targeting all adult males in Hong Kong. The men's health programme will be delivered under the supervision of a Consultant in Community Medicine, who will co-ordinate the efforts of various preventive services of the Department and work in collaboration with other sectors. An additional doctor will be employed to assist him in these activities. Elements of the programme will be integrated with existing health promotion and prevention programmes. An additional provision for this programme in 2002-03 is \$0.9M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB193

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

1104

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the ranks and the area of responsibilities of the 31 permanent posts to be deleted?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The 31 posts to be deleted in Programme (1) are as follows:

| <u>Rank of Posts</u> | <u>Number of Posts</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Assistant Clerical Officer | 2 |) Voluntary Retirement (The original |
| Office Assistant | 1 |) duties of the posts deleted would be |
| | |) delivered through alternative means |
| | |) or absorbed by existing staff.) |
| Assistant Clerical Officer | 14 |) |
| Clerical Assistant | 7 |) Time-limited posts for listing of |
| Calligraphist | 1 |) Chinese medicine practitioners |
| Personal Secretary II | 4 |) |
| Workman II | 2 |) |
| | <hr/> | |
| Total deletion: | 31 | |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB194

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 3 Health Promotion

1309

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the set up of outreaching teams to promote psychosocial health among secondary school students, does the Government plan to employ additional staff? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

In 2002-03, the Department of Health plans to employ about 300 staff comprising doctors, nurses and health promotion officers to support a new outreaching service to promote the psychosocial health of secondary school students. The additional provision for this programme in 2002-03 is \$65.5M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 20 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB195

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative Care

1265

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : As regards the indicator of "attendances at general out-patient clinics", what is the basis for estimating a drop in the number from 4 770 000 in 2001 to 4 420 000 in 2002?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The estimated decrease in the number of attendances from 4 770 000 in 2001 to 4 420 000 in 2002 is mainly due to the transfer of five general out-patient clinics to the Hospital Authority in 2001-02.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB196

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 4 Curative Care

1251

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the ranks and the area of responsibilities of the 45 permanent posts to be deleted?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The 45 posts to be deleted in Programme (4) are as follows:

| <u>Rank of Posts</u> | <u>Number of Posts</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Assistant Clerical Officer | 12 |) |
| Clerical Assistant | 21 |) |
| Office Assistant | 1 |) Voluntary Retirement (The original |
| Workman II | 1 |) duties of the posts deleted would be |
| Telephone Operator | 1 |) delivered through alternative means |
| Confidential Assistant | 1 |) or absorbed by existing staff.) |
| Supplies Supervisor II | 1 |) |
| Inoculator | 2 |) |
| Supplies Supervisor II | 1 |) Enhanced efficiency upon the |
| Clerical Officer | 1 |) implementation of the second phase |
| Clerical Assistant | 2 |) of the Laboratory Information |
| Office Assistant | 1 |) System |
| <i>Total deletion:</i> | 45 | |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

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

Reply Serial No.

HWB197

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

1211

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the details of the proposed men's health programme and the target group under this programme? Has a target been set in terms of number of service recipients? If yes, what is the target number?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The men's health programme is to promote the health and well-being of men in Hong Kong, targeting all adult males in Hong Kong. The programme will enhance men's awareness of their health issues through collation of men's health data and promote interactive and targeted health messages to men. These will address common diseases and conditions such as cancer, heart diseases and psychological conditions through multiple channels (e.g. media campaign, Men's Health Website and hotline, etc). The programme will also provide outreaching health promotion activities to men in the community. It will be delivered under the supervision of a Consultant in Community Medicine, who will co-ordinate the efforts of various preventive services of the Department and work in collaboration with other sectors.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB198

Question Serial No.

1210

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 : What are the details of the additional provision in 2002-03 for supporting the Chinese Medicine Council to implement regulatory measures for Chinese medicine?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

In 2002-03, an additional provision of \$12.4M is allocated for conducting registration assessment and licensing examination for Chinese medicine practitioners and development of regulatory standards for medicinal herbs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB199

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

1178

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the details of the proposed cervical cancer screening programme? What is the target age group under this programme? Has a target been set in terms of number of service recipients? If yes, what is the target number?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

A Cervical Screening Task Force (CSTF) has been set up in December 2001 to oversee the planning, implementation and evaluation of the cervical screening programme. The CSTF has a wide representation from professional experts, health services providers, the private sector, non-governmental organisations and women group representatives. The CSTF will recommend appropriate age targets and coverage rates for screening and make recommendations on quality management issues and the establishment of an information system to facilitate operation of the programme. The CSTF is expected to produce a report in September 2002. The Department of Health will take reference from the recommendations and take steps to implement the programme in collaboration with other health services providers. The programme will be launched in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB200

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 2 Disease Prevention

1159

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : What are the ranks and the area of responsibilities of the 21 permanent posts to be deleted?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The details of the net deletion of 21 posts in Programme (2) are as follows:

| <u>Rank of Posts</u> | <u>Number of Posts</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| <i>Posts to be deleted</i> | | |
| Laboratory Attendant | 1 |) Voluntary Retirement (The original |
| Midwife | 16 |) duties of the posts deleted would be |
| Inoculator | 2 |) delivered through alternative means |
| Telephone Operator | 1 |) or absorbed by existing staff.) |
| Assistant Clerical Officer | 1 |) Enhanced efficiency upon the |
| Laboratory Attendant | 1 |) implementation of the second phase |
| | _____ |) of the Laboratory Information System |
| Total deletion: | 22 | |
| <i>Post to be created</i> | | |
| Medical Technologist | 1 |) To strengthen laboratory |
| | _____ |) support for the food |
| | |) surveillance programme |
| Total creation: | 1 | |
| Net deletion: | 21 | |

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 21 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB201

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : 1 Statutory Functions

1132

Controlling Officer : Director of Health

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : Regarding the indicator of “registration applications from healthcare professionals processed”, what is the basis for projecting a sharp decline from 11 670 in 2001 to 2 640 in 2002?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The number of registration applications from healthcare professionals processed will decrease from 11 670 in 2001 to 2 640 in 2002. It is mainly due to the listing of about 8 000 Chinese medicine practitioners in 2001 and an expected decrease in the number of nursing graduates by about 900 in 2002.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Dr Margaret CHAN

Post Title Director of Health

Date 22 March 2002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HWB202

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

Question Serial No.

1011

Programme : (5) Transport Services for People with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Health and Welfare

Question : In 2001, the number of vehicles for the scheduled and dial-a-ride services of the Rehabus had increased by 2 and 1 respectively. In 2002-03, 2 additional vehicles will be procured. Why is there only a slight increase in patronage?

Asked by : Hon. Mrs LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply : The Rehabus operator will acquire two additional new Rehabuses to operate two new scheduled route services commencing from about November 2002. As the two new vehicles will only commence service in November 2002, they will not lead to a significant increase in the total patronage of all the scheduled route services in 2002. Transport Department will continue to monitor the situation closely.

In 2001, the Rehabus operator acquired one additional vehicle to operate dial-a-ride service to accept more orders from individual users. As the number of passengers per order from individual users is smaller than the number of passengers from group orders from organisations, the total yearly patronage only increases slightly even after an additional dial-a-ride service rebus was provided in November 2001.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ROBERT FOOTMAN

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date March 2002

Reply Serial No.

HWB203

Question Serial No.

1384

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2002-03
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 is the total number of day child care service places currently provided by the government and the subvented sectors and how are they distributed in each district? Has the Government reviewed the ratio between the people in need of this service and the number of day child care service places available in each district? If yes, please give information.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : At present, there are 29 314 aided day nursery places for children aged 2-6 and 1 153 aided day creche places for children aged under 2 provided by non-governmental organisations. Their distribution by districts is shown in the attached table.

In view of the shrinkage in population of the very young leading to change in service demand, a review of the planning mechanism for day nurseries was conducted in 1999. A new planning reference of 100 aided day nursery places to 1 000 children aged 2 to under 6 is now adopted in reserving premises for setting up new day nurseries in newly developed or redeveloped areas. No new day creches are planned in view of the dwindling demand and a general preference to avoid putting children of such young age in institutional care.

Despite new day nurseries and day creches are planned in newly developed or redeveloped areas, because of the shrinkage in population of the capacity in some under-utilised centres, or to reprovision them very young, there are ongoing rationalisation plans to close down or reduce to the newly developed or redeveloped areas in order to optimise utilisation of existing resources.

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Mrs Carrie LAM

Director of Social Welfare

26 March 2002

Distribution of Aided Child Care Centre Places by Districts
受資助幼兒中心名額各區分佈

| District 地區 | Aided Day Nursery Capacity 受資助幼兒園名額 | Aided Day Crèche Capacity 受資助育嬰園名額 |
|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Central/ Western 中西區 | 1 060 | 48 |
| Eastern 東區 | 1 716 | 76 |
| Island 離島 | 464 | - |
| Southern 南區 | 1 054 | 24 |
| Wanchai 灣仔 | 599 | 48 |
| Kowloon City 九龍城 | 1 801 | 108 |
| Mongkok 旺角 | 896 | 85 |
| ShamShuipo 深水埗 | 1 923 | 88 |
| Yau Tsim 油尖 | 658 | - |
| Kwun Tong 觀塘 | 2 837 | 48 |
| Sai Kung 西貢 | 1 221 | 40 |
| Wong Tai Sin 黃大仙 | 2 288 | 64 |
| North 北區 | 1 194 | 48 |
| Shatin 沙田 | 2 407 | 70 |
| TaiPo 大埔 | 1 230 | 40 |
| Yuen Long 元朗 | 2 106 | 92 |
| Kwai Tsing 葵青 | 2 518 | 100 |
| Tsuen Wan 荃灣 | 910 | 94 |
| Tuen Mun 屯門 | 2 432 | 80 |
| Total 總名額 | 29 314 | 1 153 |