

SPA 9/9

2810 3003

CB1/PL/PS

2501 4504

13 December 2005

Miss Salumi CHAN
Clerk to Panel on Public Service
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Salumi,

**Panel on Public Service
Work plan for the 2005-06 session**

I refer to your letter dated 23 November 2005 inviting us to consider the suggestions raised by Panel members regarding the proposed discussion items for the Panel meetings to be held from December 2005 to June 2006 and provide below the Administration's response.

- (a) To advance the discussion on "Employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff" to the Panel meeting in January 2006

For the purpose of overall monitoring of the implementation of the NCSC Scheme, Civil Service Bureau conducts half-yearly surveys to collect snapshot statistics from departments on the general information of NCSC staff, such as the number of NCSC staff employed, the range of salaries and contract duration etc. as at 30 June and 31 December each year. At the LegCo Panel meeting on 18 April 2005, we undertook to provide Members with a regular update on the employment of NCSC staff once every six months. We have earlier provided an update on the employment of NCSC staff as at 30 June 2005 to the Panel in September this year and intend to brief the Panel on the relevant information reflecting the position as at 31 December 2005 in April 2006. As we need time to collect and compile the relevant statistics from

bureaux/departments, the earliest possible date we can provide Members with an update on the statistics of NCSC staff will be April 2006.

We understand that the Panel on Manpower will discuss the matter on the extension of temporary jobs in the public sector (involving both temporary jobs outsourced either to the private sectors or non-governmental organizations by Government and some NCSC posts directly employed by the Government departments) at its meeting in January next year. As such, Members' views about the extension of these jobs would be covered at this meeting. Nevertheless, we would continue to update the Panel on Public Service on the latest position of employment of NCSC staff at its meeting on 20 April 2006 as scheduled.

- (b) To discuss the feasibility of implementing the five-day week arrangement in the civil service at a meeting of the Panel in the 2005-2006 session

Regarding the suggestion to discuss the feasibility of implementing the five-day week arrangement in the civil service, we would present a paper to the Panel on "flexible work arrangements in the Government" in May 2006.

Yours sincerely,

(SUI Wai Keung)
for Secretary for the Civil Service