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便 箋

受文者

總議會秘書(2)2

發文者

高級議會秘書(申訴)4

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: CP/C 1023/2008

採取措施處理與賭博有關的問題

繼於2008年12月1日就標題事宜向你發出便箋後,謹此告知, 政府當局已就議員所提的關注事項作出回覆。遵議員指示,現將有關 回應(見附件)轉致立法會民政事務委員會參閱。

高級議會秘書(申訴)4

(曾慶苑小姐)

連附件

副本致: 霍震霆議員, GBS, JP

陳淑莊議員 黄成智議員

memo-panel 2

政府總部 民政事務局

香港湾仔 軒尼詩道一百三十號 修頓中心三十一樓

GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT HOME AFFAIRS BUREAU

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立法會秘書處

經辦人:曾慶苑小姐

曾小姐:

採取措施處理與賭博有關的問題

謝謝你二零零八年十二月一日的來信,現謹就議員提 出的關注事項提供資料。

就平和基金向輔導治療中心提供撥款的情況而言,明 愛和東華三院所得的撥款爲每年各三百五十萬元,而錫安社會 服務處及香港青年協會爲每年各一百三十萬元。撥款安排的主 要考慮包括有關中心的規模和服務數量。正如我們在十一月二 十五日及十一月二十七日的回覆提到,平和基金委員會正研究 香港理工大學的報告,並會就對問題和病態賭徒的支援及預防 工作的發展方向,向民政事務局局長提供建議。在收到平和基 金委員會的建議後,民政事務局局長會就爲問題和病態賭徒及 其他受影響人士而設的輔導、治療和其他支援服務的長遠安 排,包括資助模式、服務營運、資助額等事宜,作全盤考慮, 並會向立法會民政事務委員會作出滙報。

在宣傳教育方面,爲了向社會各階層人士有效宣揚賭 博的禍害,我們製作了多套電視宣傳短片及電台宣傳聲帶。最 新一輯在今年九月啓播的電視宣傳短片,是「校園不賭計劃」 下「不賭宣傳短片製作比賽」公開組的得獎作品。此外,在二

零零四年及二等零六年,平和基金資助製作實況劇集,劇集內容以真質個案改編,講述問題和病態賭博對不同階層的賭徒所造成的心理傷害和經濟損失。我們會不時考慮開展新的公眾教育計劃,宣傳賭博的禍害。另一方面,四所受平和基金資助的輔導治療中心,除了爲問題及病態賭徒及其家人提供專門的輔導及治療服務外,亦會推行公眾教育計劃,宣傳戒賭熱線服務及賭博的禍害。

博獎會的會議議程會透過民政事務局網頁發放,而會議則以閉門形式進行。在最近五次會議上,委員會討論過的主要議題包括警務處在打擊非法賭博活動方面的工作、馬會容許馬主攜同未成年家庭成員或親友進入馬場所作的保安及監控等方面的安排、馬會的營運情況、有關馬會的賽馬博彩牌照及獎券活動牌照的續牌事宜等。

民政事務局局長

(衛懿欣 特殊 (代行)

二零零八年十二月十二日

政府總部民政事務局



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16 December 2008

Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong (Attn: Miss Erin TSANG)

Dear Miss TSANG,

Measures to Address Gambling-Related Problems

Thank you for your letter of 1 December 2008. We would like to provide the following information in response to Members' enquiries.

Regarding the provision of Ping Wo Fund ("the Fund") to finance the counselling and treatment centres, the annual funding to Caritas-Hong Kong and the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals is \$3.5 million each, and that to the Zion Social Service and the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups is \$1.3 million each. The main considerations for the funding arrangements include the scale of the centres and the service output. As stated in our replies of 25 November and 27 November, the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee ("the Committee") is studying the study report of Hong Kong Polytechnic University and will make recommendations to the Secretary for Home Affairs on the development of support and preventive measures for problem or pathological gamblers. On receipt of the Committee's recommendations, the Secretary for Home Affairs will consider the long-term provision of counselling, treatment

and other support services for problem or pathological gamblers and other affected parties, including mode of funding, service operation and the amount of funding, etc., in a comprehensive manner, and report to the Home Affairs Panel of the Legislative Council.

Regarding publicity and education, we have produced various television and radio announcements of public interest (APIs) to effectively publicise the negative impact of gambling across all sectors of The new TV APIs first broadcast in September this the community. year is the winning entry in the open division of the "Do Not Gamble" API design competition" under the Do Not Gamble" campaign on In 2004 and 2006, the Ping Wo Fund sponsored the production campus. of docu-dramas building on real-life experience to promulgate the psychological and financial damages that could be caused by problem and pathological gambling to gamblers from different walks of life. We will, from time to time, consider commissioning new public education programmes on the negative impact of gambling. As for the four counselling and treatment centres financed by the Ping Wo Fund, apart from providing specialised counselling and treatment services for problem or pathological gamblers and their family members, they also run public education programmes to promote the gambling counselling hotline service and publicise the negative impact of gambling.

Regarding the Betting and Lotteries Commission (BLC), it is a statutory body established under the Betting Duty Ordinance ("the Ordinance") (Cap 108). Under section 6D of the Ordinance, the BLC shall include not less than 8 persons, who are not public officers. Among them, at least one person shall be a registered social worker within the meaning of the Social Workers Registration Ordinance (Cap 505); at least one shall be eligible under the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap 542) to be registered as an elector for the education functional constituency specified in section 20(1)(e) of that Ordinance; and at least one shall occupy in any organised religion any office associated with the teaching of, the giving of guidance on, or the promotion of adherence to, the precepts of the religion; or be engaged in the teaching of any theology, philosophy or ethics. When appointing BLC members, as in the case of appointments to other advisory or statutory bodies, our consideration is to appoint the most suitable persons in order to meet the requirements of BLC and the law. We have also taken into account the candidate's ability, expertise, experience, integrity and commitment to public service, as well as the functions and nature of BLC. No specific provision has been made under the Ordinance on the relationship between members of the BLC and Hong Kong Jockey Club

(HKJC).

Agendas of the BLC meetings are available on the website of the Home Affairs Bureau and BLC meetings are conducted in closed-door. Major topics discussed at the latest five meetings of BLC include Police's efforts in tackling illegal gambling activities; HKJC's security and control arrangements in respect of allowing horse owners to bring their under-aged family members, relatives and friends into the racecourse; operation of HKJC; and renewal of HKJC's horse race betting, football betting and lottery licences.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Christine WAI) for Secretary of Home Affairs

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