

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10**

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

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)001	1527	CHEUNG Kwok-che	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)002	2601	CHEUNG Kwok-che	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)003	2730	CHEUNG Kwok-che	141	
LWB(WW)004	1209	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)005	1210	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Director of Bureau's Office
LWB(WW)006	1211	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)007	1212	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)008	1213	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)009	1214	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	
LWB(WW)010	1215	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)011	1216	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)012	1217	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)013	1218	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)014	1219	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)015	1220	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)016	1222	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)017	1421	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)018	0759	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)019	0280	IP Wai-ming	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)020	0020	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)021	0021	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)022	0357	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)023	0358	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)024	1560	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)025	2030	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)026	2032	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)027	2061	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)028	2365	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	141	Social Welfare

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)029	0864	LEE Wai-king, Starry	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)030	0911	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)031	1121	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)032	1122	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)033	2645	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)034	2847	LEUNG Kwok-hung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)035	2879	LEUNG Yiu-chung	141	Director of Bureau's Office
LWB(WW)036	2880	LEUNG Yiu-chung	141	Director of Bureau's Office
LWB(WW)037	0777	LI Fung-ying	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)038	0778	LI Fung-ying	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)039	0781	LI Fung-ying	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)040	2015	TAM Yiu-chung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)041	2016	TAM Yiu-chung	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)042	2205	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)043	2206	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)044	2207	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)045	2208	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)046	2209	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)047	2210	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)048	2211	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Women's Interests
LWB(WW)049	2212	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)050	2213	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)051	2214	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)052	2215	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)053	0859	WONG Kwok-hing	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)054	0860	WONG Kwok-hing	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)055	0861	WONG Kwok-hing	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)056	1455	WONG Kwok-hing	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)057	0873	WONG Kwok-kin	141	Social Welfare
LWB(WW)058	0874	WONG Kwok-kin	141	700 General Non-recurrent
LWB(WW)059	2296	WONG Kwok-kin	141	Subvention: Skills Centres
LWB(WW)060	0299	WONG Sing-chi	141	Subvention: Guardianship Board and Environmental Advisory Service

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)061	2621	CHAN Hak-kan	170	Young People
LWB(WW)062	0284	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)063	0355	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Young People
LWB(WW)064	0875	CHAN Mo-po, Paul	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)065	0818	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)066	0819	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)067	0820	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)068	0821	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)069	0822	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)070	0823	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)071	0824	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)072	0825	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)073	0826	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)074	0827	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)075	0828	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)076	0829	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Young People
LWB(WW)077	0876	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)078	0877	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)079	0878	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)080	0879	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)081	0880	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)082	0881	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)083	0882	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)084	0883	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)085	0887	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)086	0889	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)087	1524	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)088	1525	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)089	1526	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)090	1528	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)091	1749	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)092	1751	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Young People
LWB(WW)093	1852	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	All
LWB(WW)094	1855	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)095	1882	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)096	1883	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)097	1884	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)098	1885	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)099	2555	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)100	2556	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)101	2594	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)102	2595	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)103	2596	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)104	2597	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)105	2598	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)106	2599	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)107	2600	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)108	2782	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)109	2987	CHEUNG Man-kwong	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)110	2287	FANG Kang, Vincent	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)111	2288	FANG Kang, Vincent	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)112	1221	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)113	1317	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)114	1422	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)115	1423	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)116	1424	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)117	1425	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)118	1426	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)119	1427	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)120	1428	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)121	1429	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)122	1430	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)123	1431	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)124	1432	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)125	1433	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)126	1434	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)127	1435	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Young People
LWB(WW)128	1436	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Young People
LWB(WW)129	1437	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Young People
LWB(WW)130	1438	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)131	1439	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)132	1440	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)133	1441	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)134	1442	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)135	1443	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)136	1444	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)137	1445	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)138	1446	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)139	1492	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)140	1493	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)141	1494	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Young People
LWB(WW)142	1495	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Young People
LWB(WW)143	1496	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)144	1497	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)145	1498	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)146	1499	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)147	1500	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)148	1501	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)149	1502	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)150	1761	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)151	0528	IP Wai-ming	170	All
LWB(WW)152	0529	IP Wai-ming	170	All

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)153	1353	IP Wai-ming	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)154	1354	IP Wai-ming	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)155	2585	IP Wai-ming	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)156	2624	IP Wai-ming	170	Young People
LWB(WW)157	0356	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)158	2031	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)159	1809	LEE Cheuk-yan	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)160	1810	LEE Cheuk-yan	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)161	1811	LEE Cheuk-yan	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)162	2159	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)163	2160	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)164	2161	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)165	2368	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)166	2569	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)167	1470	LEONG Kah-hit, Alan	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)168	1123	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)169	1124	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)170	1125	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)171	1126	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)172	1185	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)173	2644	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)174	2649	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)175	2831	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)176	2832	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)177	2833	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)178	2834	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)179	2835	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)180	2836	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)181	2837	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)182	2838	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)183	2839	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)184	2840	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)185	2841	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)186	2842	LEUNG Kwok-hung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)187	0922	LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)188	0923	LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)189	1172	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)190	2866	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)191	2907	LEUNG Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)192	1727	LI Fung-ying	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)193	1956	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)194	1992	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)195	1993	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)196	1994	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)197	1995	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)198	1996	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)199	1997	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)200	1998	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)201	1999	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)202	2000	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)203	2001	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)204	2002	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)205	2003	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)206	2004	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)207	2005	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)208	2006	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)209	2007	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)210	2008	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)211	2009	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)212	2010	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)213	2011	TAM Yiu-chung	170	All
LWB(WW)214	2012	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)215	2013	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)216	2014	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)217	2017	TAM Yiu-chung	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)218	1066	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)219	1067	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)220	1068	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)221	1981	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)222	1982	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)223	1983	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)224	1984	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)225	0862	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)226	1453	WONG Kwok-hing	170	All
LWB(WW)227	1454	WONG Kwok-hing	170	All
LWB(WW)228	1456	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)229	1457	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)230	1461	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)231	1462	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)232	1463	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)233	1974	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)234	1975	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)235	1976	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Young People
LWB(WW)236	2184	WONG Kwok-hing	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)237	0870	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)238	0871	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)239	0872	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)240	1914	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)241	1915	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)242	2469	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)243	2824	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)244	2825	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)245	2827	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)246	2828	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)247	2829	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Services for Elders

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)248	2910	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)249	0300	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)250	0538	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)251	0539	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)252	0540	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)253	0541	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)254	0542	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)255	0713	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)256	0714	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)257	0715	WONG Sing-chi	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)258	0716	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)259	0717	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)260	0718	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)261	0719	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)262	1675	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)263	1676	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)264	1677	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)265	1678	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)266	1679	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)267	1680	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)268	1681	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)269	1777	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)270	1778	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)271	1780	WONG Sing-chi	170	Young People
LWB(WW)272	1781	WONG Sing-chi	170	Young People
LWB(WW)273	1782	WONG Sing-chi	170	Young People
LWB(WW)274	1814	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)275	1987	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
LWB(WW)276	1988	WONG Sing-chi	170	Social Security
LWB(WW)277	1990	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
LWB(WW)278	2062	WONG Sing-chi	170	Services for Offenders
LWB(WW)279	2063	WONG Sing-chi	170	Family and Child Welfare
LWB(WW)280	1189	WONG Yuk-man	170	Services for Elders
LWB(WW)281	0885	CHEUNG Kwok-che	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)282	0886	CHEUNG Kwok-che	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)283	1746	CHEUNG Kwok-che	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)284	2830	LEUNG Kwok-hung	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)285	2870	LEUNG Yiu-chung	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)286	2216	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)287	2217	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)288	2218	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)289	0869	WONG Kwok-hing	186	Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities
LWB(WW)290	1856	CHEUNG Kwok-che		Lotteries Fund
LWB(WW)291	2729	CHEUNG Kwok-che		Lotteries Fund
LWB(WW)292	2929	CHEUNG Kwok-che		Lotteries Fund

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Budget Speech indicates that the Government will allocate \$10 million to an Elder Academy Development Foundation. Please advise for how long the foundation is expected to be established. Will the Administration increase the number of elder academies and the places provided by them in the next three years, i.e. from 2009-10 to 2011-12? Is the subsidy granted for the operation of elder academies at tertiary institutions and primary and secondary schools one-off or recurrent in nature?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Elder Academy Scheme (the Scheme), initiated by the Elderly Commission (EC), was launched in early 2007. At present, there are 78 elder academies in primary and secondary schools (including 32 set up in early 2007 and 46 which began operation in the 2008/09 academic year). Each of these elder academies has been granted seed money of \$50,000 to \$60,000 and they will continue to operate on a self-sustaining mode. We have also gained the support of seven tertiary institutions. The funding for each tertiary institution varies as the amount each institution applies for is based on the mode and scale of the courses and individual administrative arrangements.

The Government will continue to allocate resources in the 2009-10 financial year to support the establishment of new elder academies in schools. To this end, the Government will further allocate \$10 million and work with various stakeholders to co-sponsor and establish the Elder Academy Development Foundation (the Foundation). This represents the Government's continued commitment in developing the Scheme. The Foundation will provide support to school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations to jointly run elder academies, and provide funding for the development of elder academy courses at the tertiary institutions. The Foundation will also provide support for promotion, curriculum development and extra-curricular activities under the Scheme. We encourage school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations to collaborate, and continue to set up more elder academies.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Government mentions in the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that it will “continue to provide support to the Task Force on Poverty to monitor and co-ordinate efforts across the Government in poverty alleviation”. Please give an account of the progress of the work undertaken by the Task Force on Poverty and provide details of the completed and upcoming work.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

One of the key tasks of the Task Force on Poverty (Task Force) in 2008-09 was to monitor the progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the former Commission on Poverty (CoP). Some of these recommendations were implemented in 2008-09 (e.g. the Child Development Fund, the Home Improvement Scheme for the Elderly, the Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project, one-stop shop training/employment pilot etc), while concrete implementation plan was formulated for others (e.g. the Employees Retraining Board to further increase the number of training places).

In 2009-10, the Task Force will concentrate on the following areas: continue to monitor the progress in implementing the recommendations of the former CoP; co-ordinate the Government’s efforts in tackling poverty related issues which have cross-policy implications; and enhance the understanding of poverty.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

20.3.2009

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

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

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

According to the table on Recurrent Government Expenditure: Year-on-Year Change, the increase of expenditure on social welfare over 2008-09 Original Estimate is 4% in nominal terms, but –6.4% in real terms. Would the Administration please give reasons for the difference of –10.4% between the two?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

In the 2008 Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary (FS) announced a series of measures to ease inflationary pressure and to share the fruit of economic prosperity with the community. Among those measures were a special one-off payment of \$3,000 to recipients of Old Age Allowance (OAA), an additional payment equivalent to a month's standard rate for recipients of the Comprehensive Social Security Allowance, and an additional payment of a month's allowance for recipients of the Disability Allowance. These one-off measures increased the 2008-09 estimates for social welfare recurrent expenditure by some \$2.7 billion.

In the 2009 Budget Speech, the FS has not proposed similar one-off measures. However, the 2009-10 Estimate includes a substantial increase of the rate of OAA from \$625 or \$705 per month to \$1,000 per month since January 2009. Therefore, a fairer comparison is to discount the special one-off measures in 2008-09 and include the increase of OAA rate to \$1,000 per month in the calculation of real term growth of recurrent expenditure. The recurrent allocation for social welfare will increase by 6.3% in real terms over 2008-09, as opposed to a decrease of 6.4%. In overall terms, the expenditure on social welfare amounts to 17.2% of the total recurrent government expenditure in 2009-10, second only to education.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Brief Description that the Bureau seeks to “monitor and co-ordinate the overall progress of Government’s efforts in poverty alleviation”. Would the Administration provide details of the progress of this initiative in the past year, the manpower and resources involved in the relevant work; advise whether it has assessed the effectiveness of its efforts in poverty alleviation; and give an account of the change in manpower and resources in the coming year and the resources planned to be allocated for poverty alleviation in 2009-10.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

One of the key tasks of the Task Force on Poverty (Task Force) in 2008-09 was to monitor the progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the former Commission on Poverty (CoP). Some of these recommendations were implemented in 2008-09 (e.g. the Child Development Fund (CDF), the Home Improvement Scheme for the Elderly, the Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project, one-stop shop training/employment pilot etc), while concrete implementation plan was formulated for others (e.g. the Employees Retraining Board to further increase the number of training places).

The Task Force is supported by the Poverty Team under the Labour and Welfare Bureau. Apart from supporting the Task Force, the Poverty Team is also responsible for overseeing / implementing initiatives on poverty alleviation (e.g. CDF, Short-term Food Assistance etc). The provision in the 2009-10 Draft Estimate for the Poverty Team is \$3.93 million, which covers the cost for six staff comprising two Administrative Officers, one Executive Officer, two secretarial and clerical support staff as well as one contract executive staff.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Bureau has kept up the provision for filling the position of Under Secretary in the 2009-10 Estimate. In this connection, would the Administration provide an update on the progress of recruitment for the position and when the Under Secretary is expected to take office?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Regarding the filling of the outstanding positions of Under Secretaries and Political Assistants, our consistent position is that, if there are suitable candidates, such positions will be filled. If necessary, this could be done in phases.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Matter Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 that the Bureau will “continue to oversee the implementation of the Child Development Fund pioneer projects”. Would the Administration please give an account of the latest progress on the pioneer projects and advise whether any review has been conducted on the projects? If yes, what are the results of the review?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Child Development Fund (CDF) Launching Ceremony cum Exhibition was held on 23 November 2008. The first batch of CDF pioneer projects commenced operation in December 2008 and the operating non-governmental organisations will complete the recruitment of participating children and mentors by end-March 2009. The Government will closely monitor the implementation of CDF pioneer projects. A Steering Committee has been set up under the Labour and Welfare Bureau to oversee and monitor the implementation of CDF. The Government has also commissioned a study to evaluate the first batch of CDF pioneer projects, which will last for about 3½ years.

Signature	
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 that the Labour and Welfare Bureau will “oversee the implementation of the district-based scheme to provide carer training and develop ‘carer’ services for elders in need”. Would the Administration please provide details of the existing support services provided for carers; advise whether a review will be conducted on the suitability of the services and if not, state the reasons; and give an account of the changes in the expenditure involved in the provision of support services for carers in the past three years?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Government provides an array of support services to carers of elders through the 41 District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs) and the 115 Neighbourhood Elderly Centres throughout the territory. The services provided by these centres include training and counselling, provision of information, assistance in forming carers’ mutual assistance groups, setting up resource corners, and loan and demonstration on usage of rehabilitation equipment, etc. In addition, all subsidised Residential Care Homes for the Elderly and Day Care Centres/Units for the Elderly also provide relief to carers through their residential or day respite services.

To further enhance support to elders and their carers at the district level, the Government and the Elderly Commission launched the District-based Trial Scheme on Carer Training (the Trial Scheme) in October 2007, covering the districts of Eastern and Wanchai, Wong Tai Sin and Sai Kung, and Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong. Under the Trial Scheme, 11 DECCs were each provided with seed money of \$50,000 to run carer training programmes in collaboration with community organisations. We have reviewed the Trial Scheme, and concluded that it was effective in enhancing the general knowledge of elderly care and in extending the community network for assisting elders and carers. In view of the positive response to the Trial Scheme, we have further extended it to all other districts in January 2009.

On expenditure, we allocated \$550,000 in 2007-08 as seed money to the 11 participating DECCs in the Trial Scheme. In 2008-09, \$1.1 million was granted to another 22 DECCs participating in the extended Scheme. As for other carer support

services mentioned above, since they are part and parcel of the services provided by the subsidised elderly service units, a breakdown on the expenditure on carer support alone is not available.

The Government also launched the Integrated Discharge Support Trial Programme for Elderly Patients (the Trial Programme) in March 2008 with a view to enhancing the support for elderly hospital dischargees who have difficulty taking care of themselves. The Trial Programme also provides carers' training and support services. The first two pilots of the Trial Programme commenced operation in Kwun Tong and Kwai Tsing in March and August 2008 respectively. The third pilot will be launched in Tuen Mun in July 2009. Each pilot will serve about 3 000 elders and 1 000 carers per year. An evaluation will be conducted upon the completion of the Trial Programme. Expenditures on the Trial Programme in 2007-08 and 2008-09 were about \$7.6 million and \$24 million respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10, it is stated that the Administration will “finalise the review on the permissible limit of absence from Hong Kong under the Old Age Allowance”. Can the Administration advise on the latest progress and initial findings of the review and of the anticipated completion date?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The Government is finalising the review on the permissible limit of absence from Hong Kong under the Old Age Allowance. When completed, the Government will brief the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the findings of the review.

Signature

Name in block letters

PAUL TANG

Post Title

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

Date

20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)009

Question Serial No.

1214

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

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

With respect to the studies conducted for policy formulation, can the Administration advise on: (1) the studies conducted and the expenditure incurred for each study over the past three years; and (2) the studies to be conducted in the coming two years and the financial provision made for each study?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

(1) The studies conducted and the expenditure incurred for each study over the past three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as follows –

Scope of Study	Commencement and Completion Date of Study	Expenditure (\$'000)
Evaluation of the Skills Upgrading Scheme (Phase 2)	From 2004 to 2006	619
Research on Training and Employment Programmes for Non-engaged Youth in Hong Kong	From 2004 to 2007	1,770
Survey on the Travelling Characteristics of Persons with Disabilities	From 2006 to 2007	885
Research on Learning Difficulties and Psychological Problems of Non-engaged Youth in Hong Kong	From 2006 to 2007	3,189
Evaluation of the Skills Upgrading Scheme (Phase 3)	From 2007 to 2008	1,242
Research Studies on the Epidemiology and Etiology of Suicide and the Best Practice for Suicide Prevention in Hong Kong	From 2006 to 2008	1,299
Study on residential care services for the elderly	From 2008 to 2009	1,289

Scope of Study	Commencement and Completion Date of Study	Expenditure (\$'000)
A study about the preference of old age home residents in receiving end-of-life care	Commenced in 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2009	609
A study to investigate the factors that affect long-term care use in Hong Kong	Commenced in 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2009	417
A study to develop a tool to identify high-risk elders and to look into the effects of structured emergency department intervention on hospitalisation	Commenced in 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2009	443
Consultancy Study on the Child Development Fund Pioneer Projects	Commenced in 2008 and is expected to be completed in 2012	200

- (2) The studies to be conducted in the coming two years from 2009-10 to 2010-11 and the financial provision for each study are as follows –

Scope of Study	Commencement and Completion Date of Study	Financial provision (\$'000)
A study about the preference of old age home residents in receiving end-of-life care	Commenced in 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2009	152
A study to investigate the factors that affect long-term care use in Hong Kong	Commenced in 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2009	104
A study to develop a tool to identify high-risk elders and to look into the effects of structured emergency department intervention on hospitalisation	Commenced in 2007 and is expected to be completed in 2009	806
Consultancy Study on the Child Development Fund Pioneer Projects	Commenced in 2008 and is expected to be completed in 2012	1,600
A second evaluation study to assess the impacts achieved by the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF)	Under planning	To be confirmed
Drawing on the findings of the second evaluation study on the impacts achieved by the CIIF, a third study may be commissioned to recommend the future development of social capital in Hong Kong	Under planning	To be confirmed

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)010

Question Serial No.

1215

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the brief description that the Administration will “empower women and enable them to participate more fully in the community”. Please inform this Committee of the details of the relevant work in the past year; whether there are evaluation on the effectiveness of such work; and the expenditures involved in such work in the past two years and in the 2009-10 Estimate.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Empowerment of women is a main pillar of the overall strategy of the Administration. We work with the Women's Commission (WoC) to enable women to fully realise their potentials and status. The Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP) is a key initiative of the WoC in empowering women. The CBMP is a large-scale learning programme with a women-focus. It was initiated by the WoC and is now jointly implemented by the Open University of Hong Kong (OUHK) in collaboration with Commercial Radio and nearly 80 women's groups and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The CBMP is mainly delivered through radio broadcasting and supplemented by optional learning activities and face-to-face courses delivered by NGOs. The courses include subjects such as managing interpersonal relationships, finance management, health and other practical issues in daily life.

Between its inception in March 2004 and February 2009, the CBMP recorded a cumulative enrolment of over 28 000 which did not include the large network of audience reached through the radio programme. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by OUHK in 2008, it was estimated that about 720 000 people had listened to the radio programme in the preceding year of the survey.

The CBMP was first launched on a pilot basis with funding support of about \$12.4 million from the Lotteries Fund for three years. Upon expiry of the pilot period in 2007, the Administration has been providing funding for the continued operation of the CBMP. In 2009-10, the Administration will allocate an additional \$20 million in the coming three years for expanding the programme and providing fee remissions to

women with financial difficulty so as to encourage more women to pursue continuous learning and self-development. With the expansion plan, we anticipate that more people can benefit from the programme.

To further encourage women’s participation in the community, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) supported the WoC to take forward different initiatives in the past year, including organising a talk on “Women in Leadership” on 8 March 2008 with four outstanding women leaders sharing their experiences with some 200 participants. We have also worked closely with the WoC, District Councils and women’s organisations to promote training for women leaders, and to encourage more women to participate in community and public affairs. Such efforts will continue in the coming year. The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of the LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

According to the Administration, the increase of 21.8% in provision under this programme for 2009-10 is mainly due to supporting the work of the Women's Commission. In this connection, can the Administration state the details and distribution of the support work and the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), adopted a three-pronged strategy, viz. the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women and public education, to promote the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong. We also collaborate closely with women's groups and non-governmental organisations in taking forward our initiatives.

The increase in provision for Programme 3 of Head 141 in 2009-10 is mainly due to the expansion of the Capacity Building Mileage Programme and the anticipated increase in expenses for supporting initiatives taken forward by the WoC. These initiatives include the plan of the WoC to organise a large-scale conference in August 2009 to provide a forum for exchange with women's groups and parties concerned with women development on a wide range of issues of concern to women; to commission a large-scale survey to study the current state and the public's perception of women in Hong Kong in the areas of family, economic participation and social participation; and to organise a public education initiative targeted at students.

There is a team of officers in the Labour and Welfare Bureau responsible for, inter-alia, promoting the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong, including providing secretariat support for the WoC and implementing programmes initiated by the WoC. The team comprises 12 officers and supporting staff.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Brief Description refers to “ensure adherence to the relevant international conventions and agreements in Hong Kong”. In this connection, can the Administration state the details and progress of the relevant work as well as the expenditure involved in the past 3 years?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

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

Under CEDAW, we are required to submit periodic reports to the United Nations (UN) on the progress of implementation of the Convention. The last periodic report by the Central People's Government, including that of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), was submitted in 2004. The relevant UN Committee considered the report in August 2006 and, in its concluding comments, expressed appreciation of the delegation's comprehensive replies to the questions raised by members both before and during the hearing. The Committee also welcomed the active involvement of the civil society in Hong Kong, in particular women's non-governmental organisations, in safeguarding the human rights of women.

The above-mentioned report of the HKSAR and concluding comments of the UN Committee were distributed to the Legislative Council (LegCo) and some 300 women's groups and women-related organisations and soft copies have been uploaded onto our website for public information. The LegCo Home Affairs Panel was kept informed on the UN hearing and Government's initial responses to the concluding comments at its meeting on 9 February 2007. We would provide a full response to the Committee's concluding comments in the next periodic report, which is due for submission by September 2010.

In the past three years, LWB continued with its efforts to promote public awareness of CEDAW, including the production in August 2006 of a video and a leaflet on implementation of CEDAW in Hong Kong which was uploaded on its website and distributed to all LegCo Members, District Councillors, some 300 women’s groups and women-related organisations, public libraries and all secondary schools. LWB also organised a roving exhibition on the implementation of CEDAW at 12 public libraries and seven government offices between December 2005 and September 2006. We also included a dedicated section on CEDAW in the four-day exhibition on “Women of Hong Kong – A Century of Contribution and Development” organised by the Women’s Commission in November-December 2007, which was subsequently extracted and exhibited at the Shatin Town Hall, Museum of History, Hong Kong Central Library, Tsuen Wan Town Hall, two public libraries and two government offices between July 2008 and March 2009.

In 2009-10, the Administration will continue its efforts to implement CEDAW obligations and promote public awareness and understanding of CEDAW. These include our plan to update the video and leaflet on the progress made and to launch a new public education initiative targeted at primary and secondary school students to enhance their awareness of CEDAW.

The resources incurred in implementing CEDAW are absorbed from within the existing provisions of LWB and the bureaux and departments concerned.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Brief Description refers to “improve communication and facilitate collaboration between the Government and NGOs...”. In this connection, can the Administration state, in respect of the previous year, the details of the relevant work and the expenditure involved, and list the NGOs that have participated in communication and collaboration as well as the subject matters of exchanges.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

To enhance mutual understanding and build up a closer partnership with local women's groups and organisations or agencies providing women-related services, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) together with the Women's Commission (WoC) regularly meet and exchange views with them on issues of concern to women. In 2008-09, we supported the WoC in arranging three exchange sessions and invitations were sent to some 300 women's groups and related organisations on our contact list. Representatives of about 60 local women's groups and related organisations had attended these sessions and topics covered included the status of women in Hong Kong, gender mainstreaming, women in poverty, empowerment of women leaders, women's health, combating domestic violence, and the work of the WoC. We also support the WoC in organising various talks and seminars from time to time and representatives of the women's groups and related organisations are invited to join. For instance, the WoC held a sharing session on its quality parenting pilot project in November 2008 with around 50 participants. A luncheon talk on “Women and Men: An Equal Partnership?” was held on 8 March 2009 to celebrate the International Women's Day with about 250 participants.

The above activities have facilitated our communication and liaison with the women's groups and related organisations and we will continue these efforts on an on-going basis. The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of the LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the brief description that the Administration will “promote the implementation of the “Gender Mainstreaming Checklist” and gender mainstreaming concept to more policy areas through the “Gender Focal Points Network” within the Government”. Would the Administration inform the Committee of the policy areas to which the checklist and concept will be promoted, as well as the specific details of the work and expenditures involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

To facilitate the incorporation of women's needs and perspectives into the process of policy making, the Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), implemented gender mainstreaming since 2002. The WoC has developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officials in incorporating, in a more systematic way, the gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes, so that women and men will have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. We have to date applied the Checklist to 30 specific policy or programme areas which are of relevance to women, such as health care reform, health programme for women, promotion of breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, HIV prevention programme, infirmity care services in non-hospital setting, protection against domestic violence, services for victims of domestic violence and sexual violence, retraining programme, and the Qualification Framework etc. The WoC is now reviewing the Checklist taking into account the practical experience gained in implementing gender mainstreaming by the Government over the past years.

Apart from adopting the Checklist, staff of many bureaux and departments have also applied the gender mainstreaming concept in the course of their daily work, taking into account the needs and perspectives of both genders. Some examples include vocational training for adult offenders, first aid services, provision of leisure and cultural services, procurement of uniform and accoutrements for frontline disciplinary services officers, the Continuing Education Fund, the Central Fund for Personal Computer, the Tamar Development Project and establishment and relocation of the Food Safety Laboratory.

We will continue to promote the application of the Checklist and the gender mainstreaming concept to more policy and programme areas.

To facilitate promotion of gender mainstreaming in the Government, we have since 2003 set up a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) in all bureaux and departments. The GFPs serve as the resource person for their respective bureaux and departments and as the liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of the officers in their respective organisations. We meet with the GFPs from time to time and the last meeting was held in August 2008 when the GFPs offered useful advice on the strategy to further promote gender mainstreaming within the Government.

On the advice of the GFPs, we have developed a web-portal and produced an information leaflet on gender mainstreaming for reference by all civil servants. The web-portal serves as a resource and experience-sharing platform to help intensify understanding of the concept for all civil servants. It comprises information about the concept and application of gender mainstreaming, hyperlinks to useful websites and sets out nearly 40 examples of different policy or programme areas that have applied gender mainstreaming which the GFPs have helped collect and compile. The web-portal was launched and the leaflet was distributed to all civil servants in January 2009. A training course on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues is being developed and will be launched on the web-portal in due course for reference by all civil servants.

Following the advice of the GFPs, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has continued with the on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants to raise their awareness of gender-related issues and the concept of gender mainstreaming. To date, over 4 000 civil servants of various grades and ranks have attended various classroom gender-related training. A training workshop for the GFPs themselves was also organised in January 2009. We have also through the GFPs encouraged bureaux and departments to incorporate gender-related training in their regular training programmes for their staff where appropriate. On the advice of the GFPs, we have collaborated with some bureaux and departments to arrange tailor-made programmes or train-the-trainers sessions for their staff.

To promote gender mainstreaming in the community, in 2008 we assisted the WoC in setting up a network of GFPs in all 18 District Councils (DCs) to facilitate communication and collaboration between DCs and WoC. We will support the WoC in working closely with them in promoting the incorporation of gender perspectives into district projects and activities. We will also continue our efforts in sharing the Administration's experience in implementing gender mainstreaming with the DCs and other stakeholders in the community.

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

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG

Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In his budget speech, the Financial Secretary said, "The Government attaches great importance to meeting the learning needs of women at the grassroots level. In 2004 the Women's Commission (WoC) launched the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP) to encourage women of different backgrounds and educational levels to pursue lifelong learning and develop a positive mindset and outlook on life. Since the launch of the programme, the number of enrolments has exceeded 28 000, while large audiences have been reached through radio programmes. I will allocate \$20 million in the coming three years to expand the programme and provide fee remissions to women with financial difficulty so as to encourage more women to pursue continuous learning and self-development." In this connection, would the Administration give details about the expansion of the programme, whether the WoC needs additional manpower for this and the expected number of people who will benefit from the programme in the coming three years?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The CBMP is a large-scale learning programme with a women-focus. It was initiated by the WoC and is now jointly implemented by the Open University of Hong Kong (OUHK) in collaboration with Commercial Radio and nearly 80 women's groups and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The CBMP is mainly delivered through radio broadcasting and supplemented by optional learning activities and face-to-face courses delivered by NGOs. The courses include subjects such as managing interpersonal relationships, finance management, health and other practical issues in daily life. With the additional funding, we plan to expand the CBMP by developing more new courses and exploring the feasibility of introducing a new mode of delivery of the programme (e.g. through the Internet). We will also provide fee remissions to women with financial difficulty so as to encourage more women to take part in the programme. We will work out the detailed implementation plan with WoC and OUHK.

Between its inception in March 2004 and February 2009, the CBMP recorded a cumulative enrolment of over 28 000 which did not include the large network of audience reached through the radio programme. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by OUHK in 2008, it was estimated that about 720 000 people

had listened to the radio programme in the preceding year of the survey. With the expansion plan, we anticipate that more people can benefit from the programme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the work to “continue to monitor the implementation of the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008...” mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention, will the Administration advise whether an initial review has been conducted on the implementation of the relevant legislation? If yes, what are the results and the expenditures incurred? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Under the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008, the scope of protected persons who are eligible for injunction protection against molestation has been considerably expanded. Since the commencement of the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008 on 1 August 2008, the Administration has liaised regularly with the Judiciary to monitor the trend of injunction applications. For the six months between August 2008 and January 2009, a total of 16 injunction orders were granted by the Court under the Domestic Violence Ordinance (DVO), as compared with an annual average of about 20 cases in the past few years. The Administration has launched, and will continue with, its publicity efforts to increase public awareness of the much-expanded protection of the DVO, and to help victims of domestic violence understand their rights, protection provided by law and support services available in the community. The resources required for monitoring the implementation of DVO and carrying out publicity initiatives are absorbed within the existing provisions of the Labour and Welfare Bureau and Social Welfare Department (SWD).

Under the amended DVO, the Court may, in granting a non-molestation order, require the abuser to attend a programme approved by the Director of Social Welfare (DSW) that seeks to change the attitude and behaviour of the abuser. For this purpose, SWD has launched a new anti-violence programme (AVP), which is psycho-educational in nature and suitable for different types of abusers. So far, DSW has approved seven programmes operated by the non-governmental organisations (NGOs). SWD is tasked to coordinate the implementation of AVP, including handling referrals from the Court, matching abusers required to attend AVP to suitable programmes, handling reports and

monitoring service quality and provisions by the NGOs. Annual recurrent funding of \$0.9 million has been earmarked for implementing the AVP.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Financial Secretary has announced in his Budget Speech (paragraph 122) that “the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund, established in 2002, provides financial support to community organisations in the development of social capital through cross-sectoral collaboration and community participation. Over 180 projects subsidised by the Fund in all 18 districts have delivered notable results in capacity building, enhancement of interpersonal relationship and development of community networks. So far about 60 per cent of the \$300 million under the Fund had been committed. I will closely monitor the spending situation and make an injection when necessary to ensure that the Fund can continue to perform its social function”. Would the Administration please advise whether additional staff will be recruited and additional resources be allocated for the expanding and increasing efforts under the Fund? Whether an additional injection will be made and the Fund be further expanded?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

As mentioned in the Finance Committee Agenda Item upon the formation of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) in 2002, the then Health and Welfare Bureau (and Labour and Welfare Bureau with effect from July 2007) would serve as the Secretariat for the CIIF Committee to ensure effective co-ordination amongst the departments involved. Over the years, the Administration has allocated additional resources to increase the manpower of the Secretariat and to enhance publicity on the CIIF and the concept of social capital. The Administration will review the staffing requirements of the Secretariat in light of the future development of the Fund.

The CIIF Committee has just approved another round of funding application in early March. To date, the CIIF has allocated around \$200 million to support more than 200 community projects. The Administration will closely monitor the spending situation and consider in due course when an injection may be needed.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Sub-committee on Guardianship and Custody under the Law Reform Commission published the report on “Child Custody and Access” on 7 March 2005. With regard to the recommendations made in the report and those contained in two other reports published earlier (i.e. the reports on “Guardianship of Children” and “International Parental Child Abduction”), please advise:

- (a) the number of recommendations implemented by the Administration so far and the expenditure involved;
- (b) the number of recommendations not yet implemented, the timetable for implementation and the expenditure involved in implementing the recommendations;
- (c) the reasons for not implementing the recommendations made in the reports.

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

The Government attaches great importance to the well-being of children. The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) is examining the various recommendations made by the Law Reform Commission (LRC) in its reports on Guardianship of Children, International Parental Child Abduction and Child Custody and Access in conjunction with relevant bureaux and departments. Views from relevant stakeholders including the social welfare sector and the legal sector are also being considered. As the recommendations have far-reaching implications and are inter-related, it is necessary to conduct extensive consultation with the relevant bureaux/departments and to gauge and balance the views of different stakeholders in order to come up with the way forward for the recommendations in a holistic manner.

Where appropriate, we have taken into account LRC's recommendations in considering related issues. For instance, some of the recommendations have been adopted in the context of reviewing the Domestic Violence Ordinance (DVO) and legislative

amendments were proposed to the Ordinance to better protect victims of domestic violence, including minors. The relevant amendment bill was passed by the Legislative Council in June 2008 and has taken effect since 1 August 2008.

The resources required for reviewing the DVO are absorbed within the existing provisions of LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is stated under this programme that in 2009-10, the Labour and Welfare Bureau will formulate and co-ordinate policies and programmes to “facilitate the incorporation of women's needs and perspectives into the process of policy making where appropriate”. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the policies that require incorporation of women's needs and perspectives?
- (b) Do “women's needs” mentioned in item (a) above include retirement protection for housewives?
- (c) If yes, what are the manpower and provision involved in fostering this policy? If not, why “incorporation of women's needs” does not include retirement protection for housewives?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) To facilitate the incorporation of women's needs and perspectives into the process of policy making, the Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), implemented gender mainstreaming since 2002. The WoC has developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officials in incorporating, in a more systematic way, the gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes, so that women and men will have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. We have to date applied the Checklist to 30 specific policy or programme areas which are of relevance to women, such as health care reform, health programme for women, promotion of breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, HIV prevention programme, infirmary care services in non-hospital setting, protection against domestic violence, services for victims of domestic violence and sexual violence, retraining programme, and the Qualification Framework etc. The WoC is now

reviewing the Checklist taking into account the practical experience gained in implementing gender mainstreaming by the Government over the past years.

Apart from adopting the Checklist, staff of many bureaux and departments have also applied the gender mainstreaming concept in the course of their daily work, taking into account the needs and perspectives of both genders. Some examples include vocational training for adult offenders, first aid services, provision of leisure and cultural services, procurement of uniform and accoutrements for frontline disciplinary services officers, the Continuing Education Fund, the Central Fund for Personal Computer, the Tamar Development Project and establishment and relocation of the Food Safety Laboratory. We will continue to promote the application of the Checklist and the gender mainstreaming concept to more policy and programme areas.

- (b) The current approach adopted by Hong Kong as regards retirement protection is based on the three pillars of retirement protection, namely the social security schemes (comprising Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, Old Age Allowance and Disability Allowance), a Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme and voluntary private savings. The Administration has also built up a safety net which provides special care and heavily subsidised health and housing services to those in need.
- (c) The Administration is currently studying the sustainability of Hong Kong's three pillars of retirement protection, and will take into account the results of the study and other important factors, such as defending traditional family values, maintaining overall economic competence, upholding a simple tax system, and ensuring the sustainable development of the current social security system, before deciding on the future course of action.

Signature	
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration states that it will continue to promote gender mainstreaming concept through the “Gender Focal Points Network” established within the Government in 2009-10. Would the Administration advise on the difference in details of this scheme as compared with 2008-09, including the manpower arrangements, expenditures involved and anticipated outcome?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

To facilitate the promotion of gender mainstreaming in the Government, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), on the advice of the Women's Commission, has since 2003 set up a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) in all bureaux and departments. The GFPs serve as the resource person for their respective bureaux and departments and as the liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of the officers in their respective organisations. We meet with the GFPs from time to time and the last meeting was held in August 2008 when the GFPs offered useful advice on the strategy to further promote gender mainstreaming within the Government.

On the advice of the GFPs, we have developed a web-portal and produced an information leaflet on gender mainstreaming for reference by all civil servants. The web-portal serves as a resource and experience-sharing platform to help intensify understanding of the concept for all civil servants. It comprises information about the concept and application of gender mainstreaming, hyperlinks to useful websites and sets out nearly 40 examples of different policy or programme areas that have applied gender mainstreaming which the GFPs have helped collect and compile. The web-portal was launched and the leaflet was distributed to all civil servants in January 2009. A training course on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues is being developed and will be launched on the web-portal in due course for reference by all civil servants.

Following the advice of the GFPs, LWB has continued with the on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants to raise their awareness of gender-related issues and the concept of gender mainstreaming. To date, over 4 000 civil servants of various grades and ranks have attended various classroom gender-related training. A training

workshop for the GFPs themselves was also organised in January 2009. We have also through the GFPs encouraged bureaux and departments to incorporate gender-related training in their regular training programmes for their staff where appropriate. On the advice of the GFPs, we have collaborated with some bureaux and departments to arrange tailor-made programmes or train-the-trainers sessions for their staff.

In 2009-10, we will continue to promote gender mainstreaming in the Government with the assistance of the GFPs. We will also continue to provide more gender-related training for civil servants, and strengthen the network of GFPs through meetings and experience-sharing sessions with them.

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

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Government states that it will continue to conduct public education and publicity programmes to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues during 2009-10. Would the Administration advise on:

- (a) the number of proposed projects as well as the expenditure involved and anticipated effect of the projects in each District Council District; and
- (b) whether it has taken into account the characteristics of different communities in deciding on the number, venues and themes of the proposed projects. If yes, what are the details of the projects? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Over the past years, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has worked closely with the Women's Commission (WoC) to organise various territory-wide public education and publicity programmes seeking to reduce gender prejudice and stereotyping in society and to raise public awareness of gender-related issues. These include organising various open forums and seminars; producing three TV drama series "Women with Dreams" on capacity building and empowerment of women; commissioning radio programmes to promote awareness of gender-related issues; producing Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio and posters; as well as organising essay competitions and celebration events for the International Women's Day (IWD) on 8 March every year.

In 2008-09, LWB supported the WoC in, inter-alia, organising a debate competition on gender issues for secondary and tertiary students; conducting a survey to gauge the community's views and perceptions on gender-related issues; and organising a luncheon talk on "Women and Men: An Equal Partnership?" on 8 March 2009 to celebrate the IWD 2009 with some 250 participants.

In 2009-10, such efforts will continue. Among others, the WoC is planning to organise a large-scale conference in August 2009 to provide a forum for exchange with women's groups and parties concerned with women development on a wide range of issues of

concern to women and to arouse public's interest in women issues. A public education initiative targeted at students is also planned for the second half of the financial year.

Apart from the above, efforts have also been made to foster closer cooperation with the District Councils (DCs) in promoting women's interests at the district level. In 2008-09, we assisted the WoC in setting up a network of Gender Focal Points in all 18 DCs to facilitate communication and collaboration between DCs and WoC. We also visited the Eastern, Islands, Tuen Mun, Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong, Kowloon City, and Tsuen Wan DCs. Feedbacks from the relevant DCs were positive with clear undertaking to support worthy projects conducive to women development and well-being in their respective districts where appropriate. Yau Tsim Mong DC, for instance, has further decided to set up a dedicated working group on women affairs to take forward the matter. Such collaborative efforts with the DCs will continue in the coming year.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)022

Question Serial No.

0357

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Government indicates that it will “work with relevant parties to enhance women’s participation in advisory and statutory bodies” in 2009-10. Please advise us on:

- (a) details of the plan, expenditure involved and the result expected;
- (b) the current proportion of women’s participation in advisory and statutory bodies, the increase in the proportion expected in 2009-10 and the ultimate goal;
- (c) the criteria for selection of women to participate in advisory and statutory bodies and whether certain women will be excluded for political reasons.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Administration has been working closely with the Women’s Commission (WoC) in promoting women’s participation in advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs). In 2008, the WoC had a number of exchange sessions with the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) – the subject policy bureau – to discuss ways to further promote women’s participation in ASBs. Detailed responses to the questions are as follows.

- (a) Taking into account the advice of the WoC, the Administration has since 2004 set a gender benchmark of 25% as an initial working target for appointment to ASBs. A proactive approach has been taken to achieve the target, including –
 - (i) requiring all submissions making recommendations for appointments to ASBs to include a paragraph on gender consideration;
 - (ii) encouraging bureaux and departments to reach out, identify and cultivate women who are able and willing to contribute to the work of ASBs; and
 - (iii) increasing the number of female candidates in the Central Personality Index managed by HAB.

In the coming year, the Administration will continue to work with the WoC and other women's organisations in promoting training for women leaders and encouraging more women to participate in ASBs. The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of concerned bureaux and departments.

(b) According to information provided by HAB, women's participation in ASBs reached the target of 25% in December 2005 as compared with 20.3% in December 2002. As at end-December 2008, 27.6% of the appointed members were women. The Administration will continue to monitor the situation and strengthen its efforts in further promoting women's participation in ASBs.

(c) HAB has advised that each ASB appointment is made on the basis of the merits of individual concerned, taking into consideration the candidate's ability, expertise, experience, integrity and commitment to public service, and with due regard to the functions and nature of business of the ASB concerned and also gender balance. Political factor is not a matter for consideration.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)023

Question Serial No.

0358

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

According to the Government, there is an increase of \$4.2 million in the provision for 2009-10 mainly due to the increased requirement for supporting the work of the Women's Commission. Please advise us on:

- (a) details of increasing the provision, including staff establishment and the area of the work supported;
- (b) the result expected;
- (c) whether the Women's Commission has been consulted on the provision or the formulation or modification of legislation and policy in the past 3 years and if yes, what the details are and if no, whether consultation will be considered in future.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), adopted a three-pronged strategy, viz. the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women and public education, to promote the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong. We also collaborate closely with women's groups and non-governmental organisations in taking forward our initiatives.

The increase in provision for Programme 3 of Head 141 in 2009-10 is mainly due to the expansion of the Capacity Building Mileage Programme and the anticipated increase in the expenses for supporting initiatives taken forward by the WoC. These initiatives include the plan of the WoC to organise a large-scale conference in August 2009 to provide a forum for exchange with women's groups and parties concerned with women development on a wide range of issues of concern to women; to commission a large-scale survey to study the current state and the public's perception of women in Hong Kong in the areas of family, economic participation and social participation; and to organise a public education initiative targeted at students. With the joint efforts of the WoC, women's groups and different sectors of the community, we anticipate that

continuous advancement of women’s status and enhancement of public’s awareness of gender-related issues could be achieved.

There is a team of officers in the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) responsible for, inter-alia, promoting the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong, including providing secretariat support for the WoC and implementing programmes initiated by the WoC. The team comprises 12 officers and supporting staff.

LWB has been working with the WoC to keep under review, in the light of women’s needs, policies and services related to women. Over the past three years, key policies and services reviewed included HIV/AIDS prevention, initiatives to promote continuing education in Hong Kong, services for disabled women, health services programmes, health care reform, protection for low wage and part-time female, leisure services for women, services for ethnic minority women, services for victims of domestic and sexual violence and violence prevention programme. Such efforts will continue in the coming year.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Of the projects funded by the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) over the past five years, i.e. from 2004-05 to 2008-09, were there any targeting mainly the ethnic minorities? If yes, please set out for each year their project names, service nature, the responsible organisations and the amount of funding.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The CIIF Committee encourages the project teams to help people from different ethnic, cultural or social backgrounds integrate into the mainstream community, rather than single out any particular social group, such as ethnic groups, for exclusive attention or specially designed services.

Over the past five years (i.e. from 2004-05 to 2008-09), the CIIF has supported a number of projects that aimed at promoting the social participation and inclusion of various ethnic groups. The list of projects is at Annex.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

List of projects funded by CIIF over the past five years (from 2004-05 to 2008-09) that involve ethnic groups

	Project Name	Responsible Organisation	CIIF Funding (\$)	Target Groups	Project Nature
1.	Network Building Project for Ethnic Minorities	Yuen Long Town Hall Yuen Long Children & Youth Integrated Service Centre	300,000	Ethnic Minority, Youth	Mentorship Programme
2.	A Tie that Bind - Our Community of C.A.R.E. & Colour	Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre	962,000	Ethnic Minority Unemployed	Cooperatives, Neighbourhood Networks, Tripartite Partnership
3.	Living under the Blue Sky: Multi-Cultural Enrichment and Exchange Network	YMCA of Hong Kong	890,000	Ethnic Minority, New arrivals, Youth	Neighbourhood Networks, Mentorship Programme
4.	Capacity building for the ethnic minorities and Chinese new immigrants towards social inclusion	The Chinese University of Hong Kong - Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion, Faculty of Medicine	900,000	Ethnic Minority, New arrivals, Local	After-School Care, Neighbourhood Networks, Tripartite Partnership
5.	A Mutual Help project involving ethnic and local youth in Yuen Long	Yuen Long Town Hall Yuen Long Children & Youth Integrated Service Centre	300,000	Ethnic Minority, Local Community	Tripartite Partnership
6.	The Multi-cultural Mutual Care Community Project	Christian Action	350,000	Ethnic Minority, Families, Employer	After-School Care
7.	The Multi-cultural Mutual Care Community	Christian Action	350,000	Ethnic Minority	Tripartite Partnership, After-School Care
8.	"Forging a Better Tomorrow - A Self-help and Mutual-help Project for Multi-Ethnic Vulnerable Groups"	Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre	737,238	Ethnic Minority, New arrivals, Youth	Mentorship Programme, Community employment, Business Partnership, Neighbourhood Networks

9.	Living Under The Same Sky Community Networking Project for South-Asian Ethnic Minorities and Low Income Families in Sham Shui Po	Young Men's Christian Association of H.K	1,248,880	Ethnic Minority, Local Community Families	Cooperatives, After-School Care
10.	Project SASA - South Asians Support Alliance	Hong Kong Christian Service	1,486,170	Ethnic Minority, Local Community	Cooperatives, After-School Care
11.	Social Inclusion Project for the Ethnic Minorities	Yuen Long Town Hall Management Committee Ltd.	1,998,000	Ethnic Minority, Local	Capacity building; Social Inclusion; Neighbourhood Networks
12.	Women Going Hand in Hand - Shamshuipo Community Inclusion Project	Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres	750,000	Ethnic Minority, Local Community, Children, Women	After-School Care, Neighbourhood Networks
13.	Cross-cultural Family Buddy Network	Christian Action	786,000	Ethnic Minority, Local Community	After-School Care, Neighbourhood Networks
14.	Jointly Build a Joyful Lamma	Hans Andersen Club Limited (HAC)	1,665,000	Ethnic Minority, Local Community, Children, Family, New Arrivals	After-School Care, Neighbourhood Networks
15.	S.A.Y. Harmony *	Caritas - Hong Kong	500,000	Ethnic Minority, Local Community, Youth, Local employer	Mentorship Programme, Social Integration, Tripartite Partnership

* To enhance the employability of young people, the CIIF and the Labour Department (LD) collaborated and encouraged NGOs to implement innovative projects to this end. The S.A.Y. Harmony is one of these projects. The total budget of the project is \$545,000 which includes \$500,000 from CIIF and \$45,000 from LD.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)025

Question Serial No.

2030

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned in the Financial Secretary's Budget Speech (Paragraph 118) that the Administration will allocate \$20 million in the coming three years to expand the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP). Please provide details of the annual provision from 2009-10 to 2011-12, the estimated establishment and the intended benefits.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The CBMP is a large-scale learning programme with a women-focus. It was initiated by the Women's Commission (WoC) and is being jointly implemented by the Open University of Hong Kong (OUHK) in collaboration with Commercial Radio and nearly 80 women's groups and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The CBMP is mainly delivered through radio broadcasting and supplemented by optional learning activities and face-to-face courses delivered by NGOs. The courses include subjects such as managing interpersonal relationships, finance management, health and other practical issues in daily life.

Between its inception in March 2004 and February 2009, the CBMP recorded a cumulative enrolment of over 28 000 which did not include the large network of audience reached through the radio programme. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by OUHK in 2008, it was estimated that about 720 000 people had listened to the radio programme in the preceding year of the survey.

In 2009-10, the Administration will allocate an additional \$20 million in the coming three years for expanding the programme. With the additional funding, we plan to expand the CBMP by developing more new courses and exploring the feasibility of introducing new mode of delivery of the programme (e.g. through the Internet). We will also provide fee remissions to women with financial difficulty so as to encourage more women to benefit from the programme. We will work out the detailed

implementation plan with WoC and OUHK. With the expansion plan, we anticipate that more people can benefit from the programme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-2010 that the Administration will review policies and services related to women. Please provide information on:

- (a) the policies and services to be covered by the review and the departments involved;
- (b) the expected completion time of the review;
- (c) the estimated expenses involved and the intended benefits; and
- (d) whether any follow-up measures will be taken after the completion of the review. If yes, what are the details? If no, why?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been working with the Women's Commission (WoC) to keep under review, in the light of women's needs, policies and services related to women. Over the past three years, key policies and services reviewed included HIV/AIDS prevention, initiatives to promote continuing education in Hong Kong, services for disabled women, health services programmes, health care reform, protection for low wage and part-time female, leisure services for women, services for ethnic minority women, services for victims of domestic and sexual violence and violence prevention programme. Representatives of the bureaux or departments concerned were invited to brief the WoC on their policies or programmes and members provided advice and recommendations from the gender perspective. Bureaux and departments followed up as appropriate and the WoC obtained updates from them from time to time. If necessary, the WoC would invite relevant bureaux and departments for further discussion.

For example, in November 2006, the WoC had suggested that the Administration should expand the provision of gynaecological examination couch specifically designed for women with disabilities. The Department of Health was subsequently

invited to update the WoC in September 2008 on the health services and programmes for women and advised the WoC that it had expanded the provision of gynaecological examination couch specifically designed for women with disabilities to four of the Woman Health Centres / Maternal and Child Health Centres and had planned to install the fifth one in another centre. Another example was the subject of promoting women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies, on which the Home Affairs Bureau had been invited to brief the WoC on the progress made and measures taken on two occasions within the last three years.

In 2009-10, we will continue such efforts and will work with the WoC on policies / programmes to be covered in the review.

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

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration indicated that in 2009-10, it would support the Women's Commission in promoting the well-being and interests of women through its three-pronged strategy, i.e. provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women, and public education. In respect of provision of an enabling environment, will the Administration advise on the following:

- (a) Has any complaint about inadequate provision of female toilet compartments been received from the public? If yes, please give the details.
- (b) Are public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department still maintaining the planned ratio of two female toilet compartments for every male toilet compartment as laid down in 2004? How many public toilets have met the target ratio and how many are yet to do so? Does the Administration have any plan in bringing all public toilets to the target ratio? If yes, how long will it take to meet this end?
- (c) Has the Administration monitored the implementation of Code of Practice issued by the Buildings Department which requires more female toilets to be provided in shopping arcades, cinemas and places of public entertainment? If yes, what are the details and how this has been followed up? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Administration has adopted gender mainstreaming as a key strategy in providing an enabling environment for women development by incorporating the gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes, so that women and men will have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. Since 2002, the Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), implemented gender mainstreaming. The WoC has also developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool, to assist government officials in incorporating, in a more systematic way, the gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes. We have to date applied the Checklist to 30 specific policy or programme

areas which are of relevance to women, such as health care reform, health programme for women, promotion of breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, HIV prevention programme, infirmary care services in non-hospital setting, protection against domestic violence, services for victims of domestic violence and sexual violence, retraining programme, and the Qualification Framework and the provision of toilet facilities, etc.

In respect of the provision of toilet facilities, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has applied the Checklist. Considering that women usually require longer time than men in using toilets, FEHD has increased the WC compartment ratio (female to male) from 1.5:1 to 2:1 since April 2004 in planning FEHD public toilet facilities. Separately, the Buildings Department (BD) has applied the Checklist in its review of the Building (Standards of Sanitary Fitments, Plumbing, Drainage Works and Latrines) Regulations. In May 2005, it promulgated a new Practice Note advising developers and building designers to raise the male-to-female ratio on the provisions of sanitary fitments from 1:1 to 1:1.25 in private shopping arcades, cinemas and places of public entertainment.

As to other specific information requested in the question concerning the monitoring by FEHD and BD of compliance with the new standards by toilet facilities under their purviews and complaint statistics, they fall outside the ambit of Head 141. We have referred the requests to FEHD and BD for follow-up separately.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Elderly Commission has tried to facilitate the establishment of neighbourhood support networks between the elderly and local volunteers through the “Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project” in the past two years. In this connection, what was the effectiveness of the project in the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09)? How will the additional provision of \$5 million for the project in 2009-10 be deployed?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and the Elderly Commission (EC) have jointly launched the Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project (NAAP) since early 2008. With elders playing a leading role, the project seeks to establish neighbourhood support networks and enable elders to become a new driving force in the community. Through cross-sectoral collaboration, the project mobilises different organisations and individuals who are interested in serving the community to promote the message of active ageing and caring for elders. At present, a total of 37 district projects are being carried out across the territory, covering about 114 000 elders and their family members.

The Pilot NAAP aims to strengthen neighbourhood support and inter-generational harmony, and promote active ageing at the neighbourhood level. The project has successfully identified hidden elders and elders-in-need in the community. Through the care of neighbours and the provision of appropriate assistance, elders can learn about and make use of community resources to improve their psychological state and quality of life. The Pilot NAAP – Caring for Elders aims to promote prevention of elderly abuse in the community through education, prevention and support, so as to foster inter-generational integration and harmonious family life.

Taking into account the views and experience from various sectors, LWB will continue such partnership with EC. An additional provision of \$5 million will be allocated in 2009-10 to launch the two-year Pilot NAAP – Prevention of Elderly Suicide so as to further encourage self-help and mutual help among elders at the community level through establishing new neighbourhood support networks in each district. The objective is to

optimise and further develop community resources to promote the prevention of elderly suicide. We will fund these programmes to facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration, expand and optimise the support network, and disseminate the message of cherishing life and suicide prevention among elders. Apart from organising activities that promote the concepts of active ageing and neighbourhood support, the district projects would also set up elderly caring groups with volunteers. Under the supervision of social workers and other professionals, the elderly caring groups would provide support to elders-in-need. The project has the support of the Hospital Authority, the Community Mental Health Intervention Project teams and social welfare organisations. The distribution of the district projects under Pilot NAAP – Prevention of Elderly Suicide is at [Annex](#).

When the new round of NAAP district projects is rolled out in the territory in April 2009, the total number of neighbourhood district projects will increase to 75, including the ongoing district projects. The centres concerned can receive additional funding through the projects to promote the concept of active ageing in the neighbourhood.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

**Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project-
Prevention of Elderly Suicide**
Number of participating district projects

	Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project-Prevention of Elderly Suicide (tentative start in April 2009)
Central Western, Southern and Islands	1
Eastern and Wan Chai	2
Kwun Tong	4
Wong Tai Sin and Sai Kung	6
Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong	8
Sham Shui Po	1
Sha Tin	2
Tai Po and North	3
Yuen Long	1
Tuen Mun	4
Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing	1
Total	33

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is stated in paragraph 122 of the Budget Speech that only about 60% of the \$300 million under the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) has been committed since its establishment in 2002. What are the reasons? Given the need to develop more social enterprises in the financial tsunami, will the Bureau consider expediting the approval process and the use of CIIF funding?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply :

The CIIF provides seed funding for community projects that aim at developing social capital and promoting mutual help in the neighbourhood through cross-sector collaboration. The CIIF Committee adopts a prudent and judicious approach in approving project applications and encourages project teams to apply social capital building strategies to sustain their projects beyond the funding period. The relevant activities and services can also be integrated into or subsumed under the ongoing operation of the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) concerned. As a result, the NGOs will not need to rely on the CIIF or seek alternative sources of funding to sustain their projects.

The CIIF promotes the development of social capital, which can manifest itself in different forms, including but not limited to social enterprises. A number of CIIF-funded projects have helped the participants enhance their social and economic participation and secure employment, achieving outcomes similar to those of some social enterprise projects.

On the funding position, taking into account the approval by the CIIF Committee of another round of application in early March, the CIIF has, to date, allocated around \$200 million to support more than 200 community projects, involving more than 4 000 collaborators from different sectors and benefiting over 300 000 participants.

To ensure that the projects are responsive to changing social needs, the CIIF Committee has been collaborating with different Government departments and stakeholders to develop new initiatives. For instance, the CIIF has collaborated with the Labour

Department in late 2008 to invite project proposals that can enhance the employability of young people amid the economic downturn. The CIIF Committee plans to invite project proposals which can assist middle-class families affected by the financial tsunami in the next round of applications.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many resources were allocated to elder academies promoted by the Elderly Commission over the past few years? How much funding was received by each of the seven tertiary institutions and 78 primary and secondary schools? What were the numbers of programmes? What were the numbers of elders enrolled? Did elders enrolled have to go through the means test? Please state in the table below. Will the Elder Academy Development Foundation be a replacement for the resources allocated to elder academies in the past few years? If yes, it means that with the Foundation, the previous funding will no longer be available. Is this tantamount to a cut in funding?

Year	Name of tertiary institution	Amount of funding(\$)	No. of programmes run	No. of elders enrolled	Means test (Yes/No)
	1.				
	2.				
	3.				
	4.				
	5.				
	6.				
	7.				
	Name of primary & secondary schools				
	1.				
	2.				

	3.				
	4.				
	5.				
	6.				
	7.				
	8.				
	9.				
	10.				

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Elder Academy Scheme (the Scheme), initiated by the Elderly Commission (EC), was launched in early 2007. The list of elder academies is at Annex 1.

At present, there are 78 elder academies in primary and secondary schools (including 32 set up in early 2007 and 46 which began operation in the 2008/09 academic year). They will provide approximately 10 000 learning places for elders in the 2008/09 academic year. Elder academies are run jointly by school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations and operated under the principles of inter-generational harmony and cross-sectoral collaboration. Each of these elder academies has been granted seed money of \$50,000 to \$60,000 (a total of \$1.6 million and \$1.62 million for 78 elder academies in 2006-07 and 2008-09 respectively) and they will continue to operate on a self-sustaining mode.

We have also gained the support of seven tertiary institutions which are expected to offer around 1 000 learning places for elders in the 2008/09 academic year. The funding required in 2007-08 and 2008-09 was \$250,000 and \$925,000 respectively. The funding for each tertiary institution varies as the amount each institution applies for is based on the mode and scale of the courses and individual administrative arrangements. The revised estimated expenditure for the Scheme for 2008-09 was \$3.1 million.

With support from the Radio Television Hong Kong and the Department of Health, the EC has prepared for the elder academies a set of teaching materials for reference. The course content can be categorised into compulsory health courses and elective courses (see Annex 2) to suit the needs of elders with different abilities and different socio-economical backgrounds in each district. Elders enrolled do not have to go through any means test.

The Government will continue to allocate resources in the 2009-10 financial year to support the establishment of new elder academies in schools. To this end, the Government will further allocate \$10 million and work with various

stakeholders to co-sponsor and establish the Elder Academy Development Foundation (the Foundation). This represents the Government's continued commitment in developing the Scheme. The Foundation will provide support to school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations to jointly run elder academies, and provide funding for the development of elder academy courses at the tertiary institutions. The Foundation will also provide support for promotion, curriculum development and extra-curricular activities under the Scheme.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Hong Kong

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
Central and Western	St. Joseph's and St James' Settlement Elder Academy	7 Kennedy Road, Central St Joseph's College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Joseph's College St James' Settlement
	HKSKH Central and Western District Elder Academy	31 Ka Wai Man Road, Kennedy Town SKH Lui Ming Choi Memorial Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKH Lui Ming Choi Memorial Primary School HKSKH Western District Elderly Community Centre
	HKSKH St. Matthew's Elder Academy	12-20 New Street, Sheung Wan SKH St. Matthew's Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKH St. Matthew's Primary School HKSKH St. Matthew's Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
Wanchai	Methodist Elder Academy	1 – 3/F, 99 Hennessy Road, Wanchai Methodist Education Centre – 99 Hennessy Day School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodist Education Centre – 99 Hennessy Day School Methodist Southorn Centre for The Elderly
	Lingnan Primary School Elder Academy	15 Stubbs Road, Wanchai Lingnan Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lingnan Primary School St. James' Settlement Wan Chai District Elderly Community Centre Lok Sin Tong Chan Lai Jeong Kiu Social Centre For the Elderly
Eastern	Ming Yue Elder Academy	2B Tai Cheong Street, Sai Wan Ho Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HK Chinese Women's Club College HKYWCA Ming Yue District Elderly Community Centre
	Cheung Chuk Shan SAGE Elder Academy	11 Cloud View Road, North Point Cheung Chuk Shan College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheung Chuk Shan College HKSAGE Eastern District Elderly Community Centre
	TWGHs North Point Elder Academy	18 Cloud View Road, North Point TWGHs Lee Ching Dea Memorial College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWGHs Lee Ching Dea Memorial College TWGHs Fong Shu Chuen District Elderly Community Centre
	TWGHs Munsang (Hong Kong Island) Elder Academy	26 Tai On Street, Sai Wan Ho Munsang College (Hong Kong Island)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Munsang College (Hong Kong Island) TWGHs Fong Shu Chuen District Elderly Community Centre

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
	TWGHs Shau Kei Wan Elder Academy	25 Yiu Hing Road, Yiu Tung Estate, Shau Kei Wan The Endeavourers Leung Lee Sau Yu Memorial Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Endeavourers Leung Lee Sau Yu Memorial Primary School • TWGHs Wu Ki Lim Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Wah Shan Elder Academy	62 Cloud View Road, North Point CCC Kwei Wah Shan College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC Kwei Wah Shan College • Hong Kong Christian Service Wah Hong Hostel • Harmony Garden Lutheran Centre for the Elderly
	HKSKH Eastern District Elder Academy	Tsui Wan Estate, Tsui Wan Street, Chai Wan SKH Li Fook Hing Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SKH Li Fook Hing Secondary School • HKSKH Holy Nativity Church Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Lingnan Hang Yee Memorial Secondary School Elder Academy	31 Siu Sai Wan Road, Chai Wan Lingnan Hang Yee Memorial Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lingnan Hang Yee Memorial Secondary School • Harmony Garden Lutheran Centre for the Elderly
Southern	Applied Learning Elder Academy	1 Lei Tung Estate Road, Ap Lei Chau Hong Kong True Light College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hong Kong True Light College • Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service Centre
	TWGHs Southern District Elder Academy	5 Wah Lam Path, Wah Fu Estate, Pokfulam TWGHs Hok Shan School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWGHs Hok Shan School • TWGHs Wong Shiu Ching Centre for the Elderly
	Joyful Dawn Elder Academy	Phase II, Shek Pai Wan Estate, Aberdeen Aberdeen St. Peter's Catholic Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeen St. Peter's Catholic Primary School • Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service Centre Jockey Club Wong Chi Keung District Elderly Community Centre

Kowloon

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
Kwun Tong	Sunshine Elder Academy	No. 1 Po Chiu Road, Yau Tong Po Chiu Catholic Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Po Chiu Catholic Secondary School • PLK Lau Chan Siu Po District Elderly Community Centre

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
	St. John Elder Academy	29 Yee On Street, Kwun Tong St. John The Baptist Catholic Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. John The Baptist Catholic Primary School • Salvation Army Senior Citizens Talent Advancement Project Kwun Tong Centre
	Yan Chai SAGE Elder Academy	Kai Lai Road, Kowloon Bay YCH Law Chan Chor Si College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YCH Law Chan Chor Si College • HKSAGE Kai Yip Neighbourhood Centre for the Elderly
	TWGHs Kwun Tong Elder Academy	26 Hiu Ming Street, Kwun Tong The Mission Covenant Church Holm Glad College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mission Covenant Church Holm Glad College • TWGHs Fong Shiu Yee Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	TWGHs Kowloon Bay Elder Academy	11 Kai Lok Street, Kowloon Bay HKWMA Chu Shek Lun Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKWMA Chu Shek Lun Secondary School • TWGHs Pong Wing Shiu Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Lok Wah Catholic Primary School Elder Academy	81 Chun Wah Road, Kwun Tong Lok Wah Catholic Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lok Wah Catholic Primary School • Caritas Elderly Centre-Ngau Tau Kok
Wong Tai Sin	HKSKH Wong Tai Sin Elder Academy	Tai Shing Street, Wong Tai Sin SKH Kei Tak Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SKH Kei Tak Primary School • HKSKH Wong Tai Sin District Elderly Community Centre
	Mother of God Counsel Elder Academy	5 Choi Hung Road, San Po Kong Ng Wah Catholic Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ng Wah Catholic Primary School • Caritas Tung Tau Elderly Centre
	“Wong Tai Sin Catholic Primary School and H.K.M.E.A. Jane Shu Tsao Social Centre for the Elderly” Elder Academy	102 Ching Tak Street, Wong Tai Sin Wong Tai Sin Catholic Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wong Tai Sin Catholic Primary School • H.K.M.E.A. Jane Shu Tsao Social Centre for the Elderly
	Po Leung Kuk Elder Academy (Wong Tai Sin)	176 Po Kong Village Road Po Leung Kuk Celine Ho Yam Tong College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLK Celine Ho Yam Tong College • PLK Mrs Maria Cheung Lifelong Learning Institute for the Senior
	Kei Heep Elder Academy	161 Tung Tau Tsuen Road, Wong Tai Sin CCC Kei Heep Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC Kei Heep Secondary School • Salvation Army Senior Citizens Talent Advancement Project Tung Tau Centre
Kowloon City	Holy Carpenter Church Elder Academy	10 Tai Wan Road, Hung Hom Holy Carpenter Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Carpenter Secondary School • SKH Holy Carpenter Church District Elderly Community Centre

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
	HKFWS Kowloon City Elder Academy	39 Pau Chung Street, Tokwawan ELCHK Hung Hom Lutheran Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELCHK Hung Hom Lutheran Primary School • Hong Kong Family Welfare Society Senior Citizen Centre (Kowloon City)
	TWGHs Kowloon City Elder Academy	1C Oxford Road, Kowloon Tong TWGHs Wong Fut Nam College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWGHs Wong Fut Nam College • TWGHs Wong Cho Tong District Elderly Community Centre
	TWGHs Ho Man Tin Elder Academy	55 Chung Hau Street, Homantin Carmel Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmel Secondary School • TWGHs Wong Cho Tong District Elderly Community Centre
	Kei To Secondary School Elder Academy	28 Sung On Street, Tokwawan CCC Kei To Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC Kei To Secondary School • Chung Sing Benevolent Society Tan Siu Lin Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	HKYWCA Elder Academy	6 Sheung Wo Street, Homantin YWCA Hioe Tjo Yoeng College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YWCA Hioe Tjo Yoeng College • HKYWCA Elderly Continuing Education Centre
Sham Shui Po	HKSKH Sham Shui Po Elder Academy	555 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Sham Shui Po S.K.H. Kei Fook Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SKH Kei Fook Primary School • SKH Kei Oi Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Ming Yin Elder Academy	1 Wai Chi Street, Shek Kip Mei CCC Ming Yin College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC Ming Yin College • NAAC Sham Shui Po District Elderly Community Centre
	Lingnan University Hong Kong Alumni D.S.S. Primary School Elder Academy	33 Pak Tin Street, Shamshuipo Lingnan University Hong Kong Alumni D.S.S. Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lingnan University Hong Kong Alumni D.S.S. Primary School • NAAC Sham Shui Po District Elderly Community Centre
Yau Tsim Mong	YMCA College of Careers Elder Academy	23 Waterloo Road, Yau Ma Tei YMCA College of Careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YMCA College of Careers • The Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong • The Salvation Army Yaumatei Multi-service Centre for Senior Citizens
	HKSKH All Saints' Elder Academy	11 Pak Po Street, Mongkok SKH All Saints' Middle School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SKH All Saints' Middle School • HKSKH Lok Man Alice Kwok Integrated Service Centre
	Ming Kei Elder Academy	16 Oak Street, Tai Kok Tsui CCC Ming Kei College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC Ming Kei College • Salvation Army Hoi Lam Centre for Senior Citizens

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
	HKSKH Yau Tsim District Elder Academy	1 Jordan Road, Jordan Diocesan Girls' School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diocesan Girls' School • HKSKH Lok Man Alice Kwok Integrated Service Centre

New Territories

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
Kwai Ching	Po Leung Kuk Elder Academy (Tsing Yi)	2 Tsing Chin Street, Tsing Yi PLK Mr & Mrs Chan Pak Keung Tsing Yi School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLK Mr & Mrs Chan Pak Keung Tsing Yi School • PLK Mrs Chao King Lin Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Elder Academy at CCC Chuen Yuen College	Kwai Chung Estate, 15 Sheung Kok Street, Kwai Chung CCC Chuen Yuen College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC Chuen Yuen College • Asbury Methodist Social Service
	Asbury Elder Academy	2-4 Kwai Yip Street, Kwai Chung The Methodist Lee Wai Lee College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Methodist Lee Wai Lee College • Asbury Methodist Social Service
	Yuen Yuen No. 1 Elder Academy	42 Wo Yi Hop Road, Kwai Chung HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No. 1 Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No. 1 Secondary School • HKSKH Lady MacLehose Centre
	Kwai Shing Lutheran Elder Academy	Kwai Shing East Estate, Kwai Chung E.L.C.H.K. Kwai Shing Lutheran Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELCHK Kwai Shing Lutheran Primary School • ELCHK Kwai Chung Elderly Service Centre
	TWGHs Tsuen Tsing Elder Academy	Tsing Sum Street, Town Centre, Tsing Yi TWGHs SC Gaw Memorial College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWGHs SC Gaw Memorial College • TWGHs Mrs Wang Li Ming Tzun Tsuen Wan Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Lingnan Dr Chung Wing Kwong Memorial Secondary School Elder Academy	Lai King Estate, Kwai Chung Lingnan Dr Chung Wing Kwong Memorial Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lingnan Dr Chung Wing Kwong Memorial Secondary School • ELCHK Kwai Chung Elderly Service Centre • Lai King Baptist Church Bradbury Elderly Centre
Tsuen Wan	YCH Lim Por Yen Secondary School Elder Academy	Nos. 145-165 Tsuen King Circuit, Tsuen Wan YCH Lim Por Yen Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YCH Lim Por Yen Secondary School • YCH Fong Yock Yee Social Centre for the Elderly
	SKH Evergreen Elder Academy	450 Wo Yi Hop Road, Tsuen Wan SKH Li Ping Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SKH Li Ping Secondary School • HKSKH Lady MacLehose Centre
Northern	Young Hin Elder Academy	Choi Yuen Estate, Sheung Shui HKTA Tang Hin Memorial Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKTA Tang Hin Memorial Secondary School • HKYWCA Ellen Li District Elderly Community Centre

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
Sai Kung	Yan Chai Iu Seng Elder Academy	Yuk Ming Court, Tseung Kwan O YCH Chan Iu Seng Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YCH Chan Iu Seng Primary School • Haven of Hope Christian Service
	HKSKH Tseung Kwan O Elder Academy	82, Po Hong Road, Tseung Kwan O S.K.H. Tseung Kwan O Kei Tak Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SKH Tseung Kwan O Kei Tak Primary School • HKSKH Tseung Kwan O Aged Care Complex
	YCH Wong Wha San Secondary School Elder Academy	8 Tong Chun Street, Tseung Kwan O YCH Wong Wha San Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YCH Wong Wha San Secondary School • HKSAGE Mr Wong Wha San Memorial Neighbourhood Elderly Centre • Caritas Elderly Centre - Sai Kung
	YY3 Healthy Life Elder Academy	2 Tong Ming Street, Sheung Tak Estate, Tseung Kwan O HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No. 3 Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No. 3 Secondary School • PLK Vicwood K.T. Chong Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Po Leung Kuk Elder Academy (TKO)	8 To Lok Road, Tseung Kwan O PLK Laws Foundation College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLK Laws Foundation College • PLK Wong Yau Cheung Memorial Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	YCH Lan Chi Pat Elder Academy	10 Yuk Nga Lane, Tseung Kwan O YCH Lan Chi Pat Memorial Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YCH Lan Chi Pat Memorial Secondary School • Po Lam Baptist Church Bradbury Elderly Centre
Sha Tin	Young Tsung Elder Academy	Sun Chui Estate, Shatin Shatin Tsung Tsin Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shatin Tsung Tsin Secondary School • HKYWCA Elderly Continuing Education Centre
	TWGHs Shatin City One Elder Academy	City One, Shatin TWGHs Yow Kam Yuen College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWGHs Yow Kam Yuen College • TWGHs Wilson T.S. Wang District Elderly Community Centre
	TWGHs Ma On Shan Elder Academy	208 Ma On Shan Road, Ma On Shan TWGHs Wong Fung Ling College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWGHs Wong Fung Ling College • TWGHs Wilson T.S. Wang District Elderly Community Centre
	TWGHs Shatin Town Centre Elder Academy	Lek Yuen Estate, Shatin TWGHs Mrs Fung Wong Fung Ting College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWGHs Mrs Fung Wong Fung Ting College • TWGHs Fong Yun Wah Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Po Leung Kuk Elder Academy (Shatin)	28 On Chun Street, Ma On Shan PLK Riverain Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLK Riverain Primary School • PLK Family Joy Center

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
Tai Po	Tai Po Cross-generation Elder Academy	7 Plover Cove Road, Tai Po Tai Po Old Market Public School (Plover Cove)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tai Po Old Market Public School (Plover Cove) Salvation Army Tai Po Integrated Services for Senior Citizens
	HKSKH Tai Wo Elder Academy	Po Nga Court, Tai Po AOG Hebron Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOG Hebron Secondary School HKSKH Tai Wo Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Tai Po Yuen Yuen Elder Academy	Fu Shin Estate, Tai Po HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No. 2 Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKTA The Yuen Yuen Institute No. 2 Secondary School Salvation Army Tai Po Integrated Services for Senior Citizens
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Elder Academy	Yeung Tsing Road, Area 31, Tuen Mun Yan Chai Hospital No. 2 Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yan Chai Hospital No. 2 Secondary School NAAC Tuen Mun District Integrated Services Centre for the Elderly
	Yan Shun Elder Academy	No. 1 Shan King Estate, Tuen Mun Yan Oi Tong Tin Ka Ping Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yan Oi Tong Tin Ka Ping Secondary School ELCHK, Tuen Mun Integrated Elderly Service
	Elder Academy at SMK MCF Ma Ko Pan Memorial College	17 Shek Pai Tau Road, Tuen Mun SMKMCF Ma Ko Pan Memorial College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SMKMCF Ma Ko Pan Memorial College The Asian Association for Lifelong Learning NAAC Tuen Mun District Integrated Services Centre for the Elderly
	Fuk Tong Elder Academy	28 Castle Peak Road, San Hui, Tuen Mun CCC Hoh Fuk Tong College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCC Hoh Fuk Tong College Yan Oi Tong Woo Chung District Elderly Community Centre
	Tuen Mun Law Chan Chor Si Elder Academy	29 Wu King Road, Tuen Mun YCH Law Chan Chor Si Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCH Law Chan Chor Si Primary School YCH Mrs Tsang Wing Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Ho Sik Nam Elder Academy	Area 16 Tuen Mun YCH Ho Sik Nam Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YCH Ho Sik Nam Primary School Yau On Lutheran Centre for the Elderly
	Tam Lee Lai Fun Elder Academy	10 San Wo Lane, San Hui, Tuen Mun CCC Tam Lee Lai Fun Memorial Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCC Tam Lee Lai Fun Memorial Secondary School NAAC Fu Tai Neighbourhood Elderly Centre

District	Name of Elder Academy	Address	Organising School/NGO(s)
Yuen Long	Queen Elizabeth Old Students' Association Education Centre Elder Academy	Tin Shing Road, Tin Shui Wai QES Old Students' Association Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QES Old Students' Association Secondary School • NAAC Tin Shui Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Lutheran Elder Academy	On Shun Street, Yuen Long ELCHK Yuen Long Lutheran College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELCHK Yuen Long Lutheran College • Yuen Long Town Hall Mr Chan Ying Tseung Memorial Social Centre for the Elderly
	Pok Oi Hospital Tang Pui King Memorial College Elder Academy	Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long Pok Oi Hospital Tang Pui King Memorial College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pok Oi Hospital Tang Pui King Memorial College • Pok Oi Hospital Yeung Chun Pui Care & Attention Home • Pok Oi Hospital Chan Ping Memorial Neighbourhood Elderly Centre
	Kei Yuen Elder Academy	Fung Yau Street East, Yuen Long CCC Kei Yuen College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC Kei Yuen College • Pok Oi Hospital Mrs Wong Tung Yuen District Elderly Community Centre
Islands	HKSKH Tung Chung Elder Academy	37 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung Ling Liang Church E Wun Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ling Liang Church E Wun Secondary School • HKSKH Tung Chung Integrated Services
	HKSKH "Tung Tin Campus" Elder Academy	Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung Tung Chung Catholic School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tung Chung Catholic School • HKSKH Tung Chung Integrated Services
	HKSKH "Tung Tin Dynamic College" Elder Academy	Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung Tung Chung Catholic School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tung Chung Catholic School • HKSKH Tung Chung Integrated Services

Course Content

<u>(I)</u> <u>Introduction to Compulsory Courses on Health</u>	
<u>Courses</u>	
1. Self-health Management	To introduce the concept of “self-health management”. One should take care of his/her own health to reduce reliance on formal services.
2. Normal Ageing	To learn about the physiological changes and psychological reactions brought about by normal ageing and provide means to maintain a healthy living so as to reduce problems arising from ageing and promote physical and psychological well-beings of elders.
3. Adjustment to Retirement	To give an account of the changes in life patterns after retirement, advocate a positive attitude towards retirement life and clear elders’ misconception about retirement.
4. Health Maintenance Exercise	To learn about the benefits and safety rules of doing exercise and how to select the appropriate types of exercise and to clear the misconception about doing exercise.
5. Mental Well-being	To understand the main factors causing the negative emotions of the elders and learn how to maintain a happy and healthy life.
6. Stress and Healthy Lifestyle	To understand the relationship between diet, exercise, rest, entertainment, social activity and pressure and to introduce a balanced diet and a healthy lifestyle.
7. Fall Prevention	To recognise the various causes and consequences of fall of the elders and to introduce ways to prevent fall and how to choose appropriate walking aids.
8. Understanding Hypertension	To learn about the causes and complications of hypertension. To introduce a healthy lifestyle for the prevention and control of hypertension.
9. Understanding Diabetes	To learn about the causes, symptoms and complications of and predisposition to diabetes. To elaborate on the principles of prevention and treatment of diabetes and common testing methods.
10. Osteoarthritis of Knee	To learn about the causes and treatment of osteoarthritis of knee. To elaborate on the knee protection principles and instructions on the use of aids.

11. Hypothermia / Heat Stroke	To learn about the causes, symptoms, prevention and treatment of hypothermia / heat stroke.
12. Understanding Stroke	To learn about the causes, symptoms, therapy, prevention and treatment of stroke. To promote a healthy lifestyle for the reduction of stroke risk.
13. Smoking and Health	To learn about the harmful effects and diseases caused by smoking. To elaborate on the effects of passive smoking on health and the benefits of quitting smoking.
14. Understanding Influenza	To learn about the routes of transmission, symptoms and prevention of influenza. To elaborate on the curative efforts and side effects of general drug treatment for influenza.

(II)

Brief Description of the Elective Courses

<u>Courses</u>	
1. "Let's talk in English (I)"; "Let's talk in English (II)"; "How to Say it in English"	Through different scenarios presented in each episode, the course will provide the elders with the opportunity of practising English conversation skills.
2. "Correct Cantonese Pronunciations"	The consonants, vowels and the nine tones of the Cantonese phonological system will be taught in the course. By knowing the correct articulation of the syllable of Chinese characters, the incidence of "lazy" pronunciations can be avoided.
3. "Fun in Chinese Characters"	There are many changes in the forms of Chinese characters but these changes are not in a random manner. The meaning behind Chinese characters will be explored through looking into the changes in the forms of the Chinese characters.
4. "Chinese Medicine Panorama", "Chinese Medicine Panorama (II)"	The school of Chinese medicines is of profoundness and sophistication. In this course, various Chinese medicine theories will be touched upon, which include, among others, the five elements and Yin Yang, viscera and bowels, analysing and differentiating pathological conditions in accordance with the Eight Principal Syndromes, as well as the principles of medical treatments. The purpose of the course is to provide a general but comprehensive picture about Chinese medicines to the elders.
5. "Secrets of Chinese Medicine Prescriptions"	The combinations of Chinese medicines in prescriptions are numerous and ever-changing subject to the physical conditions of patients. The course gives an account of the efficacies, the dos and don'ts about Chinese medicines, as well as the prescriptions with which the elders are familiar, so as to help the elders to get the best results in taking Chinese medicines in light of their clinical conditions.
6. "Smart Eating of Nourishing Food"	Chinese people like to build up health by taking nourishing food. It may nonetheless cause adverse effects if it is not taken in the right way. In this course participants can learn to observe their health conditions and select the right nourishing food in light of their needs. An account will be given in this course of the functions of different nourishing food and abstention of certain practices.
7. "Enjoyment from Food"	Causes of different diseases will be elaborated from the angle of Chinese medicine together with dietetic treatments conducive to therapy.

8. "Self-care Training"	To improve the self-image of the elders, the course will help the elders learn how to prevent disease and take care of themselves both mentally and physically.
9. "Historical Figures" and "Historical Figures (II)"	Starting from the saga of Emperor Xuanyuan, tales of the powerful emperors, influential mandarins or figures of the successive dynasties will be narrated for the enlightenment of participants.
10. "Story of Hong Kong"	An account will be given of the origins and stories of the names of different districts across the territory to facilitate further understanding of the history and the past geographical environment of Hong Kong.
11. "Smart Investors"	Tricks of different investment vehicles such as stock, funds and futures will be covered. Elders will also be reminded of the needs to take extra care in areas of loans, housing and consumption to avoid falling victim to fraudulent activities.
12. "The Earth"	With mainly an introduction to basic geographical knowledge like the formation of various natural phenomena and the formation of different landscapes by different rock types, the course gives a broad idea of what our earth is like.
13. "Elementary Economics"	Introducing some basic and practical economic concepts, such as opportunity cost; demand, supply and price; inflation and deflation, the course demonstrates how changes in the economy affect our living.
14. "Why Pollute Our Earth?"	The course explores how we have damaged the environment, the sources of pollution and how we can save the Earth and protect ourselves.
15. "Great Musicians and Their Works"	A brief account will be given of the features of various Chinese and western music types, their evolution and the method of appreciation.
16. "Music Legends"	The course presents the background and style of some renowned Chinese and western musicians. One will get a stronger feeling in their music after hearing their stories.
17. "Chinese Music Appreciation"	Chinese music is rich in diversity. The course begins with an account of different instrumental performances and explores the musical features of different regions. One will be astonished to find out that a lot of the music has been our companion since childhood!
18. "Travel Round the World"	Attractions and tourist highlights of different countries and points to note when travelling etc. will be covered.
19. "Let's Play Games"	Main focus will be on illustrating the rules of various games as group activities through which elders may find more fun in life

	and their relationship with others will be fostered.
20. "Tips for Dog Lovers"	Pets are good companions of the elders. In particular, cats and dogs are good friends of human beings. This course will present the tips on choosing dogs and taking care of them.
21. "Meaningful Service"	Various voluntary services, together with their service features and points to note for the elders taking part in these voluntary services, will be covered in this course.
22. Early Cognitive Disability	Knowledge of early cognitive disability, early detection of the symptoms and ways to cope with the illness will be presented in this course.
23. Senile Dementia	Knowledge of the different types of Senile Dementia and preparation to be made by the early-stage demented patients will be presented in this course.
24. Tips on Daily Living	After making adjustments in their daily life, the demented elders may find that the disruptions caused by the illness lessen.
25. Mahjong Therapy	The findings of the study on senile dementia and mahjong therapy will be explained and ways to slow down the process of cognitive degradation suggested.
26. Non-drug Therapy I	An account will be given of the fact that patients and their family members can slow down the deterioration of cognitive ability through memory training and orientation training in addition to taking medicine.
27. Non-drug Therapy II	An account will be given of the fact that patients and their family members can slow down the deterioration of cognitive ability through gardening, recalling and daily activities in addition to taking medicine.
28. Home safety I	Home design for the safety of elders with weak cognitive ability will be covered in this course.
29. Home safety II	General home design for elders will be covered in this course.
30. Community Resources for Long-term Caring	An account will be given of the current medical and health service resources, community care service and institutional care service in Hong Kong.
31. Role of Carer for the Elders	An introduction will be given to the role, duties and importance of an aged carer with advice given to the cared on how to accept the fact of being taken of.
32. Needs and Devotions of Carer for the Elders	This course serves to make the elders understand the needs and devotions of carer and give advice on how the cared can reduce carer's burden.
33. Happiness of Being a Carer	This course serves to showcase the happiness of being a carer with commendations so as to encourage family members to render a continuum of care to their elders.

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : When will the \$10-million Elder Academy Development Foundation come into operation? How many years can it last? What is the estimated number of beneficiaries? What mode will the benefits take? How many subsidised academy places can there be in each year? Will the beneficiaries of the Elder Academy Development Foundation and the Continuing Education Fund overlap?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Government will continue to allocate resources in the 2009-10 financial year to support the establishment of new elder academies in schools. To this end, the Government will further allocate \$10 million and work with various stakeholders to co-sponsor and establish the Elder Academy Development Foundation (the Foundation). This represents the Government's continued commitment in developing the Elder Academy Scheme (the Scheme). The Foundation will provide support to school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations to jointly run elder academies, and provide funding for the development of elder academy courses at the tertiary institutions. The Foundation will also provide support for promotion, curriculum development and extra-curricular activities under the Scheme. We will establish the Foundation as soon as possible to ensure the sustained development of the Scheme.

The objectives of the Scheme are to promote Active Ageing to encourage elders to lead an enriched life, maintain healthy physical and mental well-being of elders, promote inter-generational harmony and cross-sectoral collaboration. The beneficiaries of the Foundation are mainly elders and volunteers of all ages who are participating in the Scheme, whereas the Continuing Education Fund subsidises adults with learning aspirations to pursue continuing education and training courses.

Signature
Name in block letters

PAUL TANG

Post Title
Date

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)032

Question Serial No.

1122

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Will the Elder Academy Development Foundation mainly serve to subsidise the tuition fees of the elders or to subsidise tertiary institutions/schools in operating free/fee-charging courses for elders? What are the respective numbers of places in free courses and fee-charging courses? Will there be more elder academies and places in the next three years? For how many years is the Elder Academy Development Foundation expected to last? Is the subsidy for tertiary institutions/schools one-off or recurrent? Is result assessment/regulation the responsibility of the Education Bureau or the Labour and Welfare Bureau where subsidy of a welfare nature is given to tertiary institutions/schools?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Elder Academy Scheme (the Scheme), initiated by the Elderly Commission (EC), was launched in early 2007. At present, there are 78 elder academies in primary and secondary schools (including 32 set up in early 2007 and 46 which began operation in the 2008/09 academic year). Each of these elder academies has been granted seed money of \$50,000 to \$60,000 and they will continue to operate on a self-sustaining mode. We have also gained the support of seven tertiary institutions. The funding for each tertiary institution varies as the amount each institution applies for is based on the mode and scale of the courses and individual administrative arrangements.

The Government will continue to allocate resources in the 2009-10 financial year to support the establishment of new elder academies in schools. To this end, the Government will further allocate \$10 million and work with various stakeholders to co-sponsor and establish the Elder Academy Development Foundation (the Foundation). This represents the Government's continued commitment in developing the Scheme. The Foundation will provide support to school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations to jointly run elder academies, and provide funding for the development of elder academy courses at the tertiary institutions. The Foundation will also provide support for promotion, curriculum development and extra-curricular activities under the Scheme. We encourage

school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations to collaborate, and continue to set up more elder academies.

LWB and the EC will work closely to continue to promote the development of elder academies.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)033

Question Serial No.

2645

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10, the first item is to promote the implementation of the gender mainstreaming concept and the second item is to provide gender-related training to civil servants.

- (a) What were the figures of provision and manpower for these two tasks in 2008-09 and their proportions to the provision under Programme (3)?
- (b) What are the estimated figures for 2009-10 and their proportions? What are the actual percentage changes as compared with 2008-09?
- (c) Has the Bureau devised any indicators for these two tasks to review the work progress and effectiveness? If yes, what are the results of the review in 2008-09?
- (d) Does the Bureau have any work targets in 2009 for extending the implementation of gender mainstreaming work to private organisations?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The Administration has adopted gender mainstreaming as a key strategy in providing an enabling environment for women development by incorporating the gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes, so that women and men will have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. Since 2002, the Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), implemented gender mainstreaming and the provision of gender-related training to civil servants is an integral part of our efforts in promoting gender mainstreaming within the Government. The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), as well as other concerned bureaux and departments. We have no breakdown of the relevant provision of funding or manpower for these two tasks. Details of the progress made are set out below.

To facilitate implementation of gender mainstreaming in the Government, the WoC has developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officials in incorporating, in a more systematic way, the gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes. We have to date applied the Checklist to 30 specific policy or programme areas which are of relevance to women, such as health care reform, health programme for women, promotion of breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, HIV prevention programme, infirmary care services in non-hospital setting, protection against domestic violence, services for victims of domestic violence and sexual violence, retraining programme, and the Qualification Framework etc. The WoC is now reviewing the Checklist, taking into account the practical experience gained in implementing gender mainstreaming by the Government over the past years.

Apart from adopting the Checklist, staff of many bureaux and departments have also applied the gender mainstreaming concept in the course of their daily work, taking into account the needs and perspectives of both genders. Some examples include vocational training for adult offenders, first aid services, provision of leisure and cultural services, procurement of uniform and accoutrements for frontline disciplinary service officers, the Continuing Education Fund, the Central Fund for Personal Computer, the Tamar Development Project and establishment and relocation of the Food Safety Laboratory. We will continue to promote the application of the Checklist and the gender mainstreaming concept to more policy and programme areas.

LWB has also set up a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) in all bureaux and departments in 2003 to facilitate the implementation of gender mainstreaming in the Government. The GFPs serve as the resource person for their respective bureaux and departments and as the liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of the officers in their respective organisations. Following the advice of the GFPs, LWB has continued with the on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants to raise their awareness of gender-related issues and the concept of gender mainstreaming. To date, over 4 000 civil servants of various grades and ranks have attended various classroom gender-related training. A training workshop for the GFPs themselves was also organised in January 2009. We have also through the GFPs encouraged bureaux and departments to incorporate gender-related training in their regular training programmes for their staff where appropriate. On the advice of the GFPs, we have collaborated with some bureaux and departments to arrange tailor-made programmes or train-the-trainers sessions for their staff.

To promote gender mainstreaming in the community, in 2008 we assisted the WoC in setting up a network of GFPs in all the 18 District Councils (DCs) to facilitate communication and collaboration between DCs and WoC. We will support the WoC in working closely with them in promoting the incorporation of gender perspectives into district projects and activities. We will also continue our efforts in sharing the Administration's experience in implementing gender mainstreaming with the DCs and other stakeholders in the community.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Government will allocate an additional provision of \$5 million in the 2009-10 financial year to establish new networks through the “Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project”. In this connection, what services will be provided and resources allocated for each district? Upon further implementation of the Project, will the manpower and resources of elderly centres be reduced correspondingly? Will the Project help prevent or handle elder abuse?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and the Elderly Commission (EC) have jointly launched the Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project (NAAP) since early 2008. With elders playing a leading role, the project seeks to establish neighbourhood support networks and enable elders to become a new driving force in the community. Through cross-sectoral collaboration, the project mobilises different organisations and individuals who are interested in serving the community to promote the message of active ageing and caring for elders. At present, a total of 37 district projects are being carried out across the territory, covering about 114 000 elders and their family members.

The Pilot NAAP aims to strengthen neighbourhood support and inter-generational harmony, and promote active ageing at the neighbourhood level. The project has successfully identified hidden elders and elders-in-need in the community. Through the care of neighbours and the provision of appropriate assistance, elders can learn about and make use of community resources to improve their psychological state and quality of life. The Pilot NAAP – Caring for Elders aims to promote prevention of elderly abuse in the community through education, prevention and support, so as to foster inter-generational integration and harmonious family life.

Taking into account the views and experience from various sectors, LWB will continue such partnership with EC. An additional provision of \$5 million will be allocated in 2009-10 to launch the two-year Pilot NAAP – Prevention of Elderly Suicide so as to further encourage self-help and mutual help among elders at the community level through establishing new

neighbourhood support networks in each district. The objective is to optimise and further develop community resources to promote the prevention of elderly suicide. We will fund these programmes to facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration, expand and optimise the support network, and disseminate the message of cherishing life and suicide prevention among elders. Apart from organising activities that promote the concepts of active ageing and neighbourhood support, the district projects would also set up elderly caring groups with volunteers. Under the supervision of social workers and other professionals, the elderly caring groups would provide support to elders-in-need. The project has the support of the Hospital Authority, the Community Mental Health Intervention Project teams and social welfare organisations. The distribution of the district projects under Pilot NAAP – Prevention of Elderly Suicide is at Annex.

When the new round of NAAP district projects are rolled out in the territory in April 2009, the total number of neighbourhood district projects will increase to 75, including the ongoing district projects. The centres concerned can receive additional funding through the projects to promote the concept of active ageing in the neighbourhood.

Signature	
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

**Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project-
Prevention of Elderly Suicide**
Number of participating district projects

	Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project-Prevention of Elderly Suicide (tentative start in April 2009)
Central Western, Southern and Islands	1
Eastern and Wan Chai	2
Kwun Tong	4
Wong Tai Sin and Sai Kung	6
Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong	8
Sham Shui Po	1
Sha Tin	2
Tai Po and North	3
Yuen Long	1
Tuen Mun	4
Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing	1
Total	33

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)035

Question Serial No.

2879

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

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

What are the respective expenditures for the Secretary, Under Secretary and Political Assistant in the Revised Estimate for 2008-09 and the Estimate for 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The provisions earmarked for the salary provision for the Secretary, the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant in the 2008-09 Revised Estimate and the 2009-10 Estimate under Head 141 are as follows :

	2008-09 <u>Revised Estimate</u> (\$ million)	2009-10 <u>Estimate</u> (\$ million)
Secretary for Labour and Welfare	3.58	3.58
Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare	0	2.68
Political Assistant to Secretary for Labour and Welfare	0.67	1.61

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

What were the job content of and work accomplished by the Political Assistant in 2008-09? How would the Administration evaluate whether the creation of post adheres to the value for money principle?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Political Assistant to the Secretary for Labour and Welfare is responsible principally for providing political support and input to the Secretary and conducting the necessary political liaison at the instruction of the Secretary, including liaison with the media and various stakeholders. Upon assuming office, the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Labour and Welfare has provided advice from the political perspective on, for instance, the need for lobbying political parties/groups and the handling of invitations and correspondence from political parties/groups. She has also monitored views from interest groups and the general public on policy issues concerned and assessed the political implications.

The appointment of Political Assistant to the Secretary for Labour and Welfare has strengthened the support to the Secretary in undertaking political work, communicating with the Legislative Council and other stakeholders, such as District Councils, political parties/groups, non-governmental organisations, district personalities as well as business, professional and other bodies, and explaining government policies to the media and the public at large.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Concerning the 73.5% increase of the provision for social welfare in 2009-10 over the 2008-09 Original Estimate, would the Government advise the detailed distribution of the provision in 2009-10? Regarding the new initiatives to be launched under Matters Requiring Special Attention, what are the manpower involved and the details of staff deployment?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The provision of \$200.6 million for social welfare in 2009-10 includes \$40 million for personal emoluments; \$22 million for other charges items and subvention for legal representation scheme for children/juveniles involved in care or protection proceedings; and \$11 million non-recurrent expenditure for the Child Development Fund and Elder Academy Scheme. The remaining \$127.6 million is for other departmental expenses, including \$35 million for implementation of the Integrated Discharge Support Trial Programme for Elderly Patients; \$9 million for contract staff salary; \$54.6 million for miscellaneous departmental expenditure; and \$29 million for implementing a number of new/enhanced initiatives which are one-off or time-limited in nature.

To launch the new initiatives under Matters Requiring Special Attention, 24 additional posts will be created in the Social Welfare Department (SWD), including 10 posts for enhancement of medical social services for persons with mental health problems and chronic illness and 14 posts for further strengthening direct support for domestic violence victims and vulnerable families. The manpower required for the other initiatives will be absorbed within the existing resources of the Labour and Welfare Bureau and SWD.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

With regard to women's interests, please advise:

- (a) Regarding the Capacity Building Mileage Programme, what is the expenditure involved and how many women have completed the programme?
- (b) What are the number of staff and total payroll expenses involved in providing support to the Women's Commission?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

- (a) The Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP) is a large-scale learning programme with a women-focus. It was initiated by the Women's Commission (WoC) and is being jointly implemented by the WoC and the Open University of Hong Kong (OUHK) in collaboration with Commercial Radio and nearly 80 women's groups and non-governmental organisations. The CBMP was first launched in March 2004 with the funding support of about \$12.4 million from the Lotteries Fund on a pilot basis for three years. Upon expiry of the pilot period, the Administration has been providing funding support for the continued operation of the CBMP. In 2009-10, the Administration will allocate an additional \$20 million in the coming three years for expanding the programme and providing fee remissions to women with financial difficulty so as to encourage more women to pursue continuous learning and self-development.

Between its inception in March 2004 and February 2009, the CBMP recorded a cumulative enrolment of over 28 000 and this did not include the large network of audience reached through the radio programme. According to an audience rating survey commissioned by OUHK in 2008, it was estimated that about 720 000 people had listened to the radio programme in the preceding year of the survey.

(b) There is a team of officers in the Labour and Welfare Bureau responsible for, inter-alia, promoting the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong, including providing secretariat support for the WoC and implementing programmes initiated by the WoC. The team comprises 12 officers and supporting staff and the annual staff cost is about \$7.5 million. We have no breakdown of the payroll expenditure involved in providing support to the WoC.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the establishment of the Gender Focal Points Network within the Government, would the Administration inform this Committee of the manpower and expenditure involved, the timetable for implementation and specific details of the work?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

To facilitate the promotion of gender mainstreaming in the Government, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), on the advice of the Women's Commission, has since 2003 set up a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) in all bureaux and departments. The GFPs serve as the resource person for their respective bureaux and departments and as the liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of the officers in their respective organisations. We meet with the GFPs from time to time and the last meeting was held in August 2008 when the GFPs offered useful advice on the strategy to further promote gender mainstreaming within the Government.

On the advice of the GFPs, we have developed a web-portal and produced an information leaflet on gender mainstreaming for reference by all civil servants. The web-portal serves as a resource and experience-sharing platform to help intensify understanding of the concept for all civil servants. It comprises information about the concept and application of gender mainstreaming, hyperlinks to useful websites and sets out nearly 40 examples of different policy or programme areas that have applied gender mainstreaming which the GFPs have helped collect and compile. The web-portal was launched and the leaflet was distributed to all civil servants in January 2009. A training course on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues is being developed and will be launched on the web-portal in due course for reference by all civil servants.

Following the advice of the GFPs, LWB has continued with the on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants to raise their awareness of gender-related issues and the concept of gender mainstreaming. To date, over 4 000 civil servants of various grades and ranks have attended various classroom gender-related training. A training workshop for the GFPs themselves was also organised in January 2009. We have also

through the GFPs encouraged bureaux and departments to incorporate gender-related training in their regular training programmes for their staff where appropriate. On the advice of the GFPs, we have collaborated with some bureaux and departments to arrange tailor-made programmes or train-the-trainers sessions for their staff.

In 2009-10, we will continue to promote gender mainstreaming in the Government with the assistance of the GFPs. We will also continue to provide more gender-related training for civil servants, and strengthen the network of GFPs through meetings and experience-sharing sessions with them.

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

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : To finalise the review on the permissible limit of absence from Hong Kong under the Old Age Allowance in 2009-10, what concrete plans does the Labour and Welfare Bureau have?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The Government is finalising the review on the permissible limit of absence from Hong Kong under the Old Age Allowance. When completed, the Government will brief the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the findings of the review.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

What is the provision earmarked for the trial scheme on integrated support services for elderly hospital discharges in 2009-10? What is the estimated number of participants? What are the respective changes over a year earlier, that is 2008-09?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Integrated Discharge Support Trial Programme for Elderly Patients (the Trial Programme) aims at reducing the hospital re-admission rate of elderly patients who have difficulty taking care of themselves. The Trial Programme provides for better pre-discharge planning and the provision of post-discharge support, including transitional rehabilitation services and home-based community care services, thereby facilitating elders to age in the community. The Labour and Welfare Bureau, in collaboration with the Hospital Authority, launched the first two pilots under the Trial Programme in March and August 2008 in Kwun Tong and Kwai Tsing respectively. The third pilot will be launched in Tuen Mun in July 2009.

The expenditures and number of beneficiaries of the Trial Programme in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

	Expenditure in 2008-09	Number of beneficiaries in 2008-09 (as at end-December 2008) (Note 2)		Estimated expenditure in 2009-10	Estimated number of beneficiaries in 2009-10	
		Elders	Carers		Elders	Carers
Kwun Tong pilot	\$12.3 million	2 043	1 056	\$11.8 million	3 000	1 000
Kwai Tsing pilot	\$11.7 million (Note 1)	655	205	\$11.3 million	3 000	1 000
Tuen Mun pilot	NA	NA	NA	\$11.7 million (Note 3)	2 250	750
Total:	\$24 million	2 698	1 261	\$34.8 million	8 250	2 750

Note 1: The Kwai Tsing pilot was launched in August 2008. The expenditure was for eight months of services and included the one-off equipment and renovation costs.

Note 2: Figure on number of beneficiaries in the last quarter of 2008-09 is not yet available.

Note 3: The Tuen Mun pilot will be launched in July 2009. The estimated expenditure is for nine months of services and includes the one-off equipment and renovation costs.

The increase in the estimated expenditure and number of beneficiaries in 2009-10 is due to the commencement of services of the Tuen Mun pilot in July 2009.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Controlling Officer's Report of 2008-09 had already suggested that the Bureau would work with relevant parties to enhance women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies. Please advise:

- (a) the work done and measures taken in the previous year (i.e. 2008) and whether the target was achieved;
- (b) whether the target will be different in 2009-10. If yes, what is the specific target? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The Administration has been working closely with the Women's Commission (WoC) in promoting women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs). In 2008, the WoC had a number of exchange sessions with the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) – the subject policy bureau – to discuss ways to further promote women's participation in ASBs.

Taking into account the advice of the WoC, the Administration has since 2004 set a gender benchmark of 25% as an initial working target for appointment to ASBs. A proactive approach has been taken to achieve the target, including –

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

According to the information provided by HAB, women’s participation in ASBs reached the target of 25% in December 2005 as compared with the level of 20.3% in December 2002. As at end-December 2008, 27.6% of the appointed members were women. In the coming year, the Administration will continue to monitor the situation and strengthen its efforts in further promoting women’s participation in ASBs, including reaching out and identifying women who are willing and able to contribute to the work of ASBs. The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of concerned bureaux and departments.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

How many projects on women's matters did the Administration undertake in collaboration with non-governmental organisations in the previous year (i.e. 2008)? Has the Administration evaluated the effectiveness of the projects? What was the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

In 2008, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) supported the Women's Commission (WoC) to take forward various initiatives to foster closer liaison and build up partnership with local women's groups and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) providing women-related services in promoting women's well-being and interests. Apart from proactively seeking views from the women's groups and NGOs on the WoC's own initiatives, the WoC has also supported events organised by different women's groups and NGOs by participating as officiating guests and/or speakers, and promoting the events by dissemination of information through the WoC's network and website. Such efforts will continue in the coming year. The resources required for carrying out the above measures are absorbed within the existing provisions of the LWB.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

- (a) According to the Bureau, regular meetings and exchanges with local women's groups and service agencies were conducted. What is the number of these contacts in the past year (i.e. 2008)? Were those reached out in 2008 being contacted again?
- (b) Does the Bureau compile a list of existing women's groups and service agencies? What action will it take to know about the setting up of new groups and agencies?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

- (a) To enhance mutual understanding and build up a closer partnership with local women's groups and organisations or agencies providing women-related services, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) together with the Women's Commission (WoC) regularly meet and exchange views with them on issues of concern to women. In 2008-09, we supported the WoC in arranging three exchange sessions and invitations were sent to some 300 women's groups and related organisations on our contact list. Representatives of about 60 local women's groups and related organisations had attended these sessions and topics covered included the status of women in Hong Kong, gender mainstreaming, women in poverty, empowerment of women leaders, women's health, combating domestic violence, and the work of the WoC. We also support the WoC in organising various talks and seminars from time to time and representatives of the women's groups and related organisations are invited to join. For instance, the WoC held a sharing session on its quality parenting pilot project in November 2008 with around 50 participants. A luncheon talk on "Women and Men: An Equal Partnership?" was held on 8 March 2009 to celebrate the International Women's Day with about 250 participants. The above activities have facilitated our communication and liaison with the women's groups and related organisations and we will continue these efforts on an on-going basis.
- (b) The LWB and the WoC have maintained a contact list of women's groups and organisations providing services to women or with an interest in women matters to facilitate our communication with these organisations. To ensure that our contact

list is up-to-date, we have appealed to the organisations to keep us posted of any changes to their contact information and an information update form is available on the WoC website for this purpose. For newly established women's groups or women-related organisations, there is no systematic way to collect their contact information as they are not obliged to notify us of their establishment. That said, we keep a close watch of relevant news through newspapers or the Internet and will pro-actively approach the organisations to establish contact with them. Such efforts will continue.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

It is mentioned that the increase in financial provision mainly accounts for funds required to carry out the work of the Women's Commission and increased salary provision. Please advise whether the Bureau has any review mechanism in place to determine the scale of operation of the Commission and the funding principles.

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), adopted a three-pronged strategy, viz. the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women and public education, to promote the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong. We also collaborate closely with women's groups and non-governmental organisations in taking forward our initiatives. Over the past years, an annual provision of around \$20 million has been allocated for this programme area.

The increase in provision for Programme 3 of Head 141 in 2009-10 is mainly due to the expansion of the Capacity Building Mileage Programme and the anticipated increase in the expenses for supporting initiatives put forward by the WoC. These initiatives include organising a large-scale conference in August 2009 to provide a forum for exchange of views with women's groups and parties concerned on a wide range of issues of concern to women; commissioning a large-scale survey to study the current state and the public's perception of women in Hong Kong in the areas of family, economic participation and social participation; and organising a public education initiative targeted at students.

The Labour and Welfare Bureau will keep in view the resource requirement for promoting the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong under this programme area and seek new resources as circumstances warrant.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	19.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

- (a) Please provide the details and breakdown of expenditures of the trial scheme on integrated support services for elderly hospital discharges and their carers.
- (b) What is the implementation period of the trial scheme? Which department or committee will be responsible for its review?
- (c) What will the Administration do to ensure that these support services will not overlap with the community care services provided by the Hospital Authority?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

- (a) The Integrated Discharge Support Trial Programme for Elderly Patients (the Trial Programme) aims at reducing the hospital re-admission rate of elderly patients who have difficulty taking care of themselves. The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), in collaboration with the Hospital Authority (HA), launched the first two pilots under the Trial Programme in March and August 2008 in Kwun Tong and Kwai Tsing respectively. The third pilot will be launched in Tuen Mun in July 2009.

The integrated support under the Trial Programme includes pre-discharge planning provided by a Discharge Planning Team (DPT) set up under the concerned hospital, transitional rehabilitation services provided at the attached geriatric day hospital, transitional home-based community care services and carers' training provided by a Home Support Team operated by a non-governmental organisation. Elderly patients assessed by DPT as having high risks of unplanned hospital re-admission and requiring transitional rehabilitation services and/or community support services upon discharge will be invited to join the Trial Programme. The estimated expenditure of individual pilots in 2009-10 is as follows:

	Estimated expenditure in 2009-10	Estimated number of beneficiaries in 2009-10	
		Elders	Carers
Kwun Tong pilot	\$11.8 million	3 000	1 000
Kwai Tsing pilot	\$11.3 million	3 000	1 000
Tuen Mun pilot	\$11.7 million (Note)	2 250	750
Total:	\$34.8 million	8 250	2 750

Note: The Tuen Mun pilot will be launched in July 2009. The estimated expenditure is for nine months of services and includes the one-off equipment and renovation costs.

- (b) The Trial Programme was launched in March 2008 and will continue until the end of 2010-11. A Steering Committee formed under LWB, with representatives from HA, the Food and Health Bureau and the Social Welfare Department, is overseeing the implementation and evaluation of the Trial Programme.
- (c) It is not uncommon for elders to be re-admitted to hospitals shortly after discharge due to the lack of family and/or social support. Against this background, the Trial Programme was launched to enhance the support for elderly patients with a view to facilitating them to stay in the community after discharge. As stated in part (a), the integrated support services provided under the Trial Programme include pre-discharge planning, transitional rehabilitation, transitional home-based community care services. Pre-discharge training is also provided to carers of elderly patients to enhance their care skills and confidence in caring for the discharged elders. These tailor-made support services ensure seamless care for elderly hospital discharges through meeting both their post-discharge rehabilitation and social needs, and supplement HA's existing community outreach services such as community nursing services.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)047

Question Serial No.

2210

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

In respect of the promotion of gender mainstreaming in the past year (i.e. 2008), has the anticipated effectiveness been achieved? How will the Bureau carry out the promotion work in 2009-10? What targets are expected to be achieved?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

To facilitate the incorporation of women's needs and perspectives into the process of policy making, the Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), implemented gender mainstreaming since 2002. The WoC has developed the Gender Mainstreaming Checklist (the Checklist), an analytical tool to assist government officials in incorporating, in a more systematic way, the gender needs and perspectives into the policy formulation and programme development processes, so that women and men will have equitable access to, and benefit from, society's resources and opportunities. We have to date applied the Checklist to 30 specific policy or programme areas which are of relevance to women, such as health care reform, health programme for women, promotion of breast-feeding and provision of baby-care facilities, HIV prevention programme, infirmity care services in non-hospital setting, protection against domestic violence, services for victims of domestic violence and sexual violence, retraining programme, and the Qualification Framework etc. The WoC is now reviewing the Checklist, taking into account the practical experience gained in implementing gender mainstreaming by the Government over the past years.

Apart from adopting the Checklist, staff of many bureaux and departments have also applied the gender mainstreaming concept in the course of their daily work, taking into account the needs and perspectives of both genders. Some examples include vocational training for adult offenders, first aid services, provision of leisure and cultural services, procurement of uniform and accoutrements for frontline disciplinary service officers, the Continuing Education Fund, the Central Fund for Personal Computer, the Tamar Development Project and establishment and relocation of the Food Safety Laboratory.

To facilitate promotion of gender mainstreaming in the Government, we have since 2003 set up a network of Gender Focal Points (GFPs) in all bureaux and departments. The GFPs serve as the resource person for their respective bureaux and departments and as the liaison points in implementing gender mainstreaming. They also assist in raising awareness and understanding of gender-related issues of the officers in their respective organisations. We meet with the GFPs from time to time and the last meeting was held in August 2008 when the GFPs offered useful advice on the strategy to further promote gender mainstreaming within the Government.

On the advice of the GFPs, we have developed a web-portal and produced an information leaflet on gender mainstreaming for reference by all civil servants. The web-portal serves as a resource and experience-sharing platform to help intensify understanding of the concept for all civil servants. It comprises information about the concept and application of gender mainstreaming, hyperlinks to useful websites and sets out nearly 40 examples of different policy or programme areas that have applied gender mainstreaming which the GFPs have helped collect and compile. The web-portal was launched and the leaflet was distributed to all civil servants in January 2009. A training course on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues is being developed and will be launched on the web-portal in due course for reference by all civil servants.

Following the advice of the GFPs, the Labour and Welfare Bureau has continued with the on-going efforts to provide training to civil servants to raise their awareness of gender-related issues and the concept of gender mainstreaming. To date, over 4 000 civil servants of various grades and ranks have attended various classroom gender-related training. A training workshop for the GFPs themselves was also organised in January 2009. We have also through the GFPs encouraged bureaux and departments to incorporate gender-related training in their regular training programmes for their staff where appropriate. On the advice of the GFPs, we have collaborated with some bureaux and departments to arrange tailor-made programmes or train-the-trainers sessions for their staff.

To promote gender mainstreaming in the community, in 2008 we assisted the WoC in setting up a network of GFPs in all 18 District Councils (DCs) to facilitate communication and collaboration between DCs and WoC. We will support the WoC in working closely with them in promoting the incorporation of gender perspectives into district projects and activities. We will also continue our efforts in sharing the Administration's experience in implementing gender mainstreaming with the DCs and other stakeholders in the community. Such efforts will continue in the coming year.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	19.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (3) Women's Interests

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Under this Programme in 2009-10, apart from mentioning the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (CBMP) that serves to empower women, issues such as provision of women health services and employment programmes to enable women to fully realise their due status in all aspects of life are not mentioned. What are the reasons for that?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The Administration has, on the advice and with the assistance of the Women's Commission (WoC), adopted a three-pronged strategy, viz. the provision of an enabling environment, empowerment of women and public education, to promote the well-being and interests of women in Hong Kong. We also collaborate closely with women's groups and non-governmental organisations in taking forward our initiatives.

The CBMP is a key initiative of WoC in empowering women. It is a large-scale learning programme with a women-focus initiated by WoC and jointly implemented by the Open University of Hong Kong in collaboration with the Commercial Radio and nearly 80 women's groups and non-governmental organisations. In 2009-10, the Administration will allocate an additional \$20 million in the coming three years for expanding the programme and providing fee remissions to women with financial difficulty so as to encourage more women to pursue continuous learning and self-development.

In addition, WoC also keeps under review, in the light of women's needs, policies and services related to women. Over the past three years, key policies and services reviewed included HIV/AIDS prevention, initiatives to promote continuing education in Hong Kong, services for disabled women, health services programmes, health care reform, protection for low wage and part-time female, leisure services for women, services for ethnic minority women, services for victims of domestic and sexual violence and violence prevention programme. Such efforts will continue in the coming year.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)049

Question Serial No.

2212

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration mentions that the increase in provision is for implementing various new initiatives. What are these initiatives and what is the expenditure involved in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The increase in provision for 2009-10 is made up mainly of a number of one-off or time-limited initiatives, which include \$10 million for stepping up public education and publicity on the rights of the persons with disabilities and their integration into society; \$10 million for enhancing the programmes to help young Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients and other disadvantaged groups affected by the economic downturn; \$5 million for extending the Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Projects; and \$4 million for enhancing information technology support for the Comprehensive Child Development Service.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau will provide support to the Task Force on Poverty to monitor and co-ordinate efforts across the Government in poverty alleviation. Please advise:

- (a) how much resources will be allocated to the Task Force on Poverty in 2009-10?
- (b) what are the plans of the Task Force on Poverty in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

- (a) The Task Force on Poverty (Task Force) is supported by the Poverty Team under the Labour and Welfare Bureau. Apart from supporting the Task Force, the Poverty Team is also responsible for overseeing / implementing initiatives on poverty alleviation (e.g. the Child Development Fund, Short-term Food Assistance etc). The provision in the 2009-10 Draft Estimate for the Poverty Team is \$3.93 million, which covers the cost for six staff comprising two Administrative Officers, one Executive Officer, two secretarial and clerical support staff as well as one contract executive staff.
- (b) In 2009-10, the Task Force will concentrate on the following areas: continue to monitor the progress in implementing the recommendations of the former Commission on Poverty; co-ordinate the Government's efforts in tackling poverty related issues which have cross-policy implications; and enhance the understanding of poverty.

Signature

Name in block letters

PAUL TANG

Post Title

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

Date

20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Will the Bureau continue to conduct evaluation and studies in 2009 with respect to some of the policies and programmes under implementation or planned to be implemented? If so, what are those policies and programmes?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

In 2009, the Bureau will conduct the following evaluation and consultancy studies in relation to policies under Programme (2) Social Welfare –

- (1) A study about the preference of old age home residents in receiving end-of-life care;
- (2) A study to investigate the factors that affect long-term care use in Hong Kong;
- (3) A study to develop a tool to identify high-risk elders and to look into the effects of structured emergency department intervention on hospitalisation;
- (4) A consultancy study to evaluate the Child Development Fund Pioneer Projects; and
- (5) A second evaluation study to assess the impacts achieved by the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund. Drawing on the findings of the second evaluation study, a third study may be commissioned to recommend the future development of social capital in Hong Kong.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

PAUL TANG

Permanent Secretary
for Labour and Welfare

20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

As mentioned on page 477 of Volume 1A of the Estimates, the Administration will continue to monitor the implementation of the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008. In this connection:

- (a) What will be done in 2009-10 to take forward the related work, in particular the legislative work to include same-sex cohabitants in the scope of protection under the Ordinance?
- (b) Are there any annual plans on public education and training for professionals to tackle and prevent domestic violence? If yes, what are the specific programmes? How are targets and performance indicators set?
- (c) Regarding the batterer intervention programme, what are the exact implementation timetable and the contents? And the expenditure incurred?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

- (a) Under the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008, the scope of protected persons who are eligible for injunction protection against molestation has been considerably expanded. Since the commencement of the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008 on 1 August 2008, the Administration has regularly liaised with the Judiciary to monitor the trend of the injunction applications. For the six months between August 2008 and January 2009, a total of 16 injunction orders were granted by the Court under the Domestic Violence Ordinance (DVO), as compared with an annual average of about 20 cases in the past few years. The Administration has launched, and will continue with, its publicity efforts to increase public awareness of the much-expanded protection of the DVO, and to help victims of domestic violence understand their rights, protection provided by law and support services available in the community. Separately, the Administration has undertaken to further amend the DVO in the 2008-09 legislative session to expand its scope from covering heterosexual cohabitants to also include same-sex cohabitants. Drafting of the amendment bill

is in progress and it remains the Administration's plan to introduce the amendments into the Legislative Council as soon as practicable within the current legislative session.

- (b) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has since 2002 launched a series of territory-wide publicity and district-based programmes on "Strengthening Families and Combating Violence" to enhance public awareness of the need to strengthen families and prevent domestic violence. In 2009-10, SWD will sustain the publicity efforts of this campaign, with a focus on prevention of suicide in view of the recent financial crisis as well as prevention of children being left unattended. SWD will make use of various media channels and transportation networks to publicise the relevant messages. Territory-wide and district-based public education initiatives and activities will also be organised. Detailed programmes for 2009-10 are being planned.

In 2009-10, SWD will continue to provide a series of training programmes on handling of child abuse, spouse battering, elder abuse, suicide and sexual violence cases for a total of about 6 000-7 000 social workers and other relevant frontline professionals including clinical psychologists, police officers and nurses.

- (c) The two-year pilot project of Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP) launched by SWD was completed in March 2008 and it had been proven to be effective in helping abusers change their abusive behaviour. SWD has shared its experience of the pilot project with relevant stakeholders and developed user manuals for use by trained professionals. Following the completion of the pilot, the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of SWD have continued to run the BIP for suitable clients as part of their counselling service. Besides, SWD will further study and develop suitable treatment models for different types of batterers. In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists will be allocated to FCPSUs and Clinical Psychology Units respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases and to further develop the BIP. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated to the BIP as it is an integrated component of the counselling service for batterers. It is estimated that about 90 batterers will participate in the programme in 2009-10.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

There is an increase of \$82.3 million (69.6%) in the estimated expenditure on social welfare for 2009-10. This is mainly due to the trial scheme on integrated support services for elderly hospital discharges, the implementation of various new initiatives and the additional requirement for other departmental expenses. In this connection, would the Government please advise on the following :

- (a) the estimated expenditure of the trial scheme on integrated support services for elderly hospital discharges, the number of elders to be benefited from the scheme and the number of staff to be recruited;
- (b) the actual expenditure of the trial scheme on integrated support services for elderly hospital discharges for 2008-09, the number of elders benefited from the scheme and the number of staff recruited at present;
- (c) the specific details of the various new initiatives which lead to such additional requirement, as stated by the Administration; and
- (d) the reasons for additional requirement for other departmental expenses.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) The Integrated Discharge Support Trial Programme for Elderly Patients (the Trial Programme) aims at reducing the hospital re-admission rate of elderly patients who have difficulty taking care of themselves through better pre-discharge planning and the provision of post-discharge support. The Labour and Welfare Bureau, in collaboration with the Hospital Authority, launched the first two pilots under the Trial Programme in March and August 2008 in Kwun Tong and Kwai Tsing respectively. The third pilot will be launched in Tuen Mun in July 2009.

The estimated expenditure of the Trial Programme in 2009-10 is about \$34.8 million. It is estimated that about 8 250 elders and 2 750 carers will benefit from the three pilots. At present, the total number of non-civil service

contract staff employed under the first two pilots is 105. It is estimated that an additional 48 non-civil service contract staff will be employed under the third pilot to be launched in July 2009.

- (b) The estimated expenditure of the Trial Programme in 2008-09 was \$24 million. As at end-December 2008, about 2 698 elders were served under the Trial Programme. As stated in part (a), a total of 105 non-civil service contract staff are currently employed under the first two pilots.
- (c) The various new/enhanced initiatives are mainly one-off or time-limited expenditure items, which include \$10 million for stepping up public education and publicity on the rights of the persons with disabilities and their integration into society; \$10 million for enhancing the programmes to help young Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients and other disadvantaged groups affected by the economic downturn; \$5 million for extending the Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Projects; and \$4 million for enhancing information technology support for the Comprehensive Child Development Service.
- (d) The reasons for additional requirement for other departmental expenses are mainly due to the estimated increase in expenditure for contract staff salary, publicity activities on the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund, enhancement of websites and application systems, and funding reserved for ad hoc requirements arising during 2009-10.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)054

Question Serial No.

0860

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

The Administration will continue to provide support to the Task Force on Poverty in 2009-10. In this regard, would the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) What is the estimated expenditure of the Task Force on Poverty in 2009-10? What are the details of the expenditure?
- (b) How many staff will the Task Force on Poverty need to employ in 2009-10?
- (c) What are the details of work of the Task Force on Poverty in 2008-09 and 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a)&(b) The Task Force on Poverty (Task Force) is supported by the Poverty Team under the Labour and Welfare Bureau. Apart from supporting the Task Force, the Poverty Team is also responsible for overseeing / implementing initiatives on poverty alleviation (e.g. the Child Development Fund (CDF), Short-term Food Assistance etc). The provision in the 2009-10 Draft Estimate for the Poverty Team is \$3.93 million, which covers the cost for six staff comprising two Administrative Officers, one Executive Officer, two secretarial and clerical support staff as well as one contract executive staff.
- (c) One of the key tasks of the Task Force in 2008-09 was to monitor the progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the former Commission on Poverty (CoP). Some of these recommendations were implemented in 2008-09 (e.g. CDF, the Home Improvement Scheme for the Elderly, the Pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project, one-stop shop training / employment pilot etc), while concrete implementation plan was formulated for others (e.g. the Employees Retraining Board to further increase the number of training places).

In 2009-10, the Task Force will concentrate on the following areas: continue to monitor the progress in implementing the recommendations of the former CoP; co-ordinate the Government's efforts in tackling poverty related issues which have cross-policy implications; and enhance the understanding of poverty.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2009-10, the Administration will finalise the review on the permissible limit of absence from Hong Kong under the Old Age Allowance. In this connection, can the Administration state:

- (a) when the review will begin?
- (b) when the review will be completed and whether the result will be made public?
- (c) what the estimated expenditure for the review is?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : The Government is finalising the review on the permissible limit of absence from Hong Kong under the Old Age Allowance. When completed, the Government will brief the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the findings of the review.

The review does not incur additional manpower or expenditure.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)056

Question Serial No.

1455

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

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the overseeing of the implementation of the trial scheme on integrated support services for elderly hospital discharges mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10, will the Administration state :

- (a) the number of elderly beneficiaries of the scheme in 2008-09 and the percentage represented by this number among the elderly population in Hong Kong?
- (b) the respective number of beneficiaries and expenditures incurred under the scheme for the 18 Districts in Hong Kong?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) The Integrated Discharge Support Trial Programme for Elderly Patients (the Trial Programme) aims at reducing the hospital re-admission rate of elderly patients who have difficulty taking care of themselves. The Labour and Welfare Bureau, in collaboration with the Hospital Authority, launched the first two pilots under the Trial Programme in March and August 2008 in Kwun Tong and Kwai Tsing respectively. The third pilot will be launched in Tuen Mun in July 2009.

The integrated support under the Trial Programme includes pre-discharge planning provided by a Discharge Planning Team (DPT) set up under the concerned hospital, transitional rehabilitation services provided at the attached geriatric day hospital, transitional home-based community care services and carers' training provided by a Home Support Team operated by a non-governmental organisation. Elderly patients assessed by DPT as having high risks of unplanned hospital re-admission and requiring transitional rehabilitation services and/or community support services upon discharge will be invited to join the Trial Programme.

As at end-December 2008, about 2 698 elders were served under the Trial Programme, representing 97.5% of elders assessed by DPT to be in need of the support services under the Trial Programme.

- (b) As stated above, the Trial Programme involves three pilots. The estimated expenditure and number of beneficiaries of individual pilots in 2009-10 are as follows:

	Estimated expenditure in 2009-10	Estimated number of beneficiaries in 2009-10	
		Elders	Carers
Kwun Tong pilot	\$11.8 million	3 000	1 000
Kwai Tsing pilot	\$11.3 million	3 000	1 000
Tuen Mun pilot	\$11.7 million (Note)	2 250	750
Total:	\$34.8 million	8 250	2 750

Note: The Tuen Mun pilot will be launched in July 2009. The estimated expenditure is for nine months of services and includes the one-off equipment and renovation costs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) : 700 General
Labour and Welfare Bureau non-recurrent

Programme : (2) Social Welfare

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Elder Academy Scheme, will the Government advise:

- (a) on the specific operating expenses of and number of people benefited from the Elder Academy Scheme in 2008-09;
- (b) whether an estimated expenditure of the Elder Academy Scheme has been made for 2009-10; if yes, on the details of the expenditure;
- (c) on the effectiveness of the Elder Academy Scheme since its introduction?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : The Elder Academy Scheme (the Scheme), initiated by the Elderly Commission (EC), was launched in early 2007. At present, there are 78 elder academies in primary and secondary schools (including 32 set up in early 2007 and 46 which began operation in the 2008/09 academic year). They will provide approximately 10 000 learning places for elders in the 2008/09 academic year. Elder academies are run jointly by school-sponsoring bodies and social welfare organisations and operated under the principles of inter-generational harmony and cross-sectoral collaboration. Each of these elder academies has been granted seed money of \$50,000 to \$60,000 (a total of \$1.62 million for elder academies in 2008-09) and they will continue to operate on a self-sustaining mode. We have also gained the support of seven tertiary institutions which are expected to offer around 1 000 places for elders in the 2008/09 academic year. The funding required in 2008-09 was \$925,000. The revised estimated expenditure for the Scheme for 2008-09 was \$3.1 million.

LWB and the EC have just invited a new round of applications for setting up elder academies in secondary and primary schools on 6 March 2009, hence we cannot provide an estimate of expenditure for 2009-10.

A review of the 32 elder academies set up in the first phase was conducted in mid to late 2008. All the organisers of the elder academies agreed that the Scheme provided a platform for service learning for students and allowed

them to broaden their horizons. Elders could also learn new technology and knowledge through elder academy courses and widen their social networks. This could also strengthen their self-confidence and build a positive image, and more importantly deepen mutual understanding with young students through communication and experience sharing. Therefore, the Scheme has achieved its purpose of encouraging lifelong learning among elders and promoting inter-generational harmony.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

Head : 141 – Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) : 700 General non-
Labour and Welfare Bureau recurrent

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Regarding the Child Development Fund (CDF), will the Government advise:

- (a) on the specific operating expenses of and number of people benefited from CDF in 2008-09;
- (b) whether an estimated expenditure of CDF has been made for 2009-10; if yes, on the details of the expenditure;
- (c) on the effectiveness of CDF since its introduction?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply :

The estimated expenditure of CDF for 2008-09 is \$5 million while the provision in the 2009-10 Draft Estimate is \$8 million. The provision covers the cost for training programmes for the participating children, their parents and mentors; evaluation study; monitoring, promotion and publicity activities; and administrative cost for the operating non-governmental organisations (NGOs) of the first batch of pioneer projects.

The first batch of CDF pioneer projects commenced operation in December 2008 and the operating NGOs will complete the recruitment of participating children and mentors by end-March 2009. We anticipate that a total of 750 children will participate in the first batch of pioneer projects. The Government will closely monitor the implementation of CDF pioneer projects. A Steering Committee has been set up under the Labour and Welfare Bureau to oversee and monitor the implementation of CDF. The Government has also commissioned a study to evaluate the first batch of CDF pioneer projects, which will last for about 3½ years.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

Programme : (5): Subvention: Skills Centres

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

For the Skills Centres, please state:

- (a) in respect of the specific assessment programme, the reasons for the decrease in the revised estimate for 2008-09 as against the actual figure for 2007-08;
- (b) in respect of the number of trainees enrolled, the reasons for the decrease in the revised estimate of 2008-09 for the number of trainees enrolled for part-time training as against the actual number in 2007-08;
- (c) in respect of the number of trainees completed training, the reasons for the decrease in the revised estimate of 2008-09 for the number of trainees who have completed part-time training as against the actual number in 2007-08; and
- (d) whether there were eligible persons who were not given suitable skills training in the past three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09? If yes, how many? What is the average waiting time?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply :

- (a) The estimated number of cases for specific vocational assessment programme (SVAP) in the 2008/09 academic year is 760 which is lower than the actual figure (839) in the 2007/08 academic year. The downward estimation is made having regard to the estimated demand from sheltered workshops and the projected number of special school leavers in the 2008/09 academic year. Skills Centres will monitor closely the demand for specific vocational assessment and make suitable adjustments to meet the needs where appropriate.
- (b) There was an increase in enrolment for part-time evening courses for the 2007/08 academic year as two courses were specially organised in response to short-term training needs identified by the Skills Centre Alumni for the year. The Skills Centres estimate that the level of training activities in the 2008/09 academic year will be broadly similar to that in previous years, but will monitor closely the

demand for training and make suitable adjustments to the number of training places where appropriate.

- (c) As a result of an exceptional increase in enrolment for part-time evening courses for the 2007/08 academic year as explained in part (b) above, there was a corresponding increase in the number of trainees who completed training in 2007/08. Corresponding adjustment is made to the estimated number of trainees who completed training in the 2008/09 academic year, having regard to the estimated number of trainees enrolled in the 2008/09 academic year.
- (d) In the past three years, sufficient training places were available for persons with disabilities who were suitable for vocational training in Skills Centres.

Currently most applicants can be admitted to the Skills Centres' training programmes within a reasonable time after completion of the application and evaluation process. In 2008, the average waiting time was about two weeks.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

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

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

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question :

Please explain why the financial provision for the Guardianship Board and Environmental Advisory Service programme is 3.3% lower in 2009-10. What are the implication on the support services to be provided to the disabled, mentally disordered and mentally handicapped?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply :

The payment of end-of-contract gratuity for the Chairman of the Guardianship Board made in 2008-09 is no longer required in 2009-10. This accounts mainly for the reduction in provision for the Guardianship Board and Environmental Advisory Service in 2009-10. The reduced provision will have no impact on the services provided by the Guardianship Board and Environmental Advisory Service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	20.3.2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration states that a new integrated children and youth services centre (ICYSC) will be set up in Tseung Kwan O through pooling of existing resources in 2009-10. Will the resources for other services be reduced as a result? Will additional resources be provided to meet the expenditure of the project?

In addition, where will the ICYSC be located? When will it come into operation? What types of services will be provided? How many young people will benefit?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply : The new ICYSC will be formed by pooling surplus resources for youth services on a cost-neutral basis as agreed with the non-governmental organisation that operates the services. This will not lead to a reduction in existing resources.

The new ICYSC is in Tseung Kwan O Area 86 and is expected to commence operation in the fourth quarter of 2009. It will provide a wide range of comprehensive services including guidance and counselling services, supportive services for young people in disadvantaged circumstances, socialisation programmes and programmes for the development of social responsibility and competence.

According to the current planning standard, an ICYSC will serve a population of 12 000 young people aged from six to 24.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As shown in the key performance measures and indicators, the number of workers for handling family and child protection cases will increase to 168 in 2009-10, 12 more than that in the 2008-09 Revised Estimate, while the number of supervision cases served and the average number of supervision cases per worker in respect of family and child protection will increase to 10 797 and 44 respectively. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the reasons why the number of supervision cases served in respect of family and child protection is only expected to increase by 2.5% in 2009-10 despite an estimated increase of 7.69% in the number of workers?
- (b) given that the number of workers will increase to 168 in 2009-10 and the number of supervision cases per worker is only 44, the total number of cases they can handle is projected to be 7 392. However in 2009-10 the estimated number of supervision cases served is 10 797. Who will be responsible for handling the remaining 3 405 cases? Will the 168 workers be required to handle the remaining 3 405 cases? If yes, will the quality of service received by each case be affected?
- (c) given that the cost per case per month in 2009-10 is \$1,399 and the number of cases served is projected to be 10 797, the average cost per month will be \$15,105,003. An increase of 4.82% in the average cost per month is noted when comparing with \$14,410,512 in 2008-09. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

- Reply :
- (a) The projected number of supervision cases in 2009-10 is derived from the revised estimate of supervision cases served by Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) in 2008-09 and the estimated growth rate of new cases in 2008-09. In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers will be allocated to FCPSUs to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence, and further develop the batterer intervention programme. The additional manpower will also help to alleviate the workload of social workers in FCPSUs.
 - (b) The average number of supervision cases represents only the average number of “active” cases handled by each social worker in FCPSUs in the respective year. The projected total number of 10 797 supervision cases in 2009-10, however, includes both “active” and “closed” cases to be handled by social workers in FCPSUs during the year. The latter cases are not included when calculating the average number of supervision cases per social worker.
 - (c) The increase in the estimated average cost per month in 2009-10 (as compared with the figure in 2008-09) is mainly due to the enhanced manpower of 12 social workers in FCPSUs in 2009-10.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under the targets and indicators of this Programme, the number of outreaching social work teams (OSWTs) is maintained at 16 in 2008-09, but the number of cases served and clients identified will be increased to 14 662 and 5 221 respectively with the cost per case per month at \$485. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the reasons for an average increase of about 5% in the number of cases served and clients identified in 2009-10 despite the fact that the number of OSWTs is maintained at the present level?
- (b) of the reasons for a decrease instead of an increase in the cost per case per month in 2009-10? Will the quality of service be affected?
- (c) how it will monitor the performance of the enhanced services of the OSWTs?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

- Reply :
- (a) Although the number of OSWTs is maintained at the present level, one additional social worker post has been allocated to each of the 16 OSWTs since October 2008, thus enabling the OSWTs to cope with the increase in caseload.
 - (b) The total expenditure for the service in 2009-10 is estimated to increase by 3.5% as compared to the 2008-09 Revised Estimate owing to the provision of additional staff mentioned in (a) above. As the number of cases is estimated to increase by 5%, the unit cost will show a small decrease of 1.4%. The quality of service will be enhanced due to the increase in manpower in 2009-10.

- (c) SWD monitors the performance of subvented welfare services through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under SPMS, service performance is assessed according to the Funding and Service Agreements and a generic set of Service Quality Standards drawn up between SWD and non-governmental organisations operating the subvented services. The enhanced services of all 16 OSWTs are also monitored under the SPMS.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the targets and indicators under this Programme, the number of places purchased from private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) will be increased to 7 136 in 2009-10, but the occupancy rate will be maintained at 96% and the cost per place per month will be \$6,111. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the estimated expenditure involved in providing subsidised residential care places in private RCHEs participating in the EBPS?
- (b) why the occupancy rate is still maintained at 96% despite an increase of 7.66% in the number of places?
- (c) whether the 1.07 % increase of the cost per place per month has taken into account the factor of slowing inflation in 2009-10? If no, what are the reasons? Will the cost per place per month be re-adjusted later?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

- Reply :
- (a) The estimated expenditure involved in providing subsidised residential care places under EBPS in 2009-10 is \$504 million.
 - (b) The occupancy rate is estimated to be about 96%, taking into account the casual vacancies arising mainly from natural wastage while waiting for the Social Welfare Department to arrange other elders to take up the places.

- (c) The unit cost of EPBS places in the 2009-10 Estimate has reflected the price adjustment based on the Government-wide Price Adjustment Factor of the previous year. No significant adjustment will be made in 2009-10.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, the projected number of cases served by Integrated Family Services Centres (IFSCs) in 2009-10 is more or less the same as that in 2008-09. In view of the sharp economic decline, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the grounds on which it has anticipated that the number of cases served by IFSCs in both years will be similar, and whether it will consider providing IFSCs with more resources and manpower so that they will be able to cope with a possible surge in caseload? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : We estimate the number of cases to be served by IFSCs with reference to the latest figures available at the time. For the 2008-09 Revised Estimate, the figures are projections based on the actual number of active cases brought forward from 2007-08 and new/re-activated cases handled in the first two quarters of 2008-09. For the 2009-10 Estimate, the figures are projections based on the number of cases handled in the first two quarters of 2008-09.

Additional resources have been allocated to strengthen the manpower of IFSCs since 2005-06. We will closely monitor the service need and explore new resources to further strengthen the manpower where necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide the number and nature of cases served by each Integrated Family Services Centre (IFSC) as well as the expenditure and staffing establishment involved in handling these cases in 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively? Would the Administration please also provide the estimated expenditure of and the projected number of cases served by each IFSC in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : The estimated numbers of cases served by IFSCs in 2007-08 (Actual), 2008-09 (Revised Estimate) and 2009-10 (Draft Estimate) are 82 979, 87 318 and 87 711 respectively. Cases handled by IFSCs involve marital problem, parenting issue, child care arrangement, emotional problem, financial difficulty, housing problem, etc.

The provisions for IFSCs in 2007-08 (Actual), 2008-09 (Revised Estimate) and 2009-10 (Draft Estimate) are \$609.8 million, \$667.7 million and \$698.8 million respectively. There were around 1 000 frontline social workers in the 61 IFSCs at the end of 2007-08 and increased to 1 010 in 2008-09. The non-governmental organisations operating IFSCs have the flexibility under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system to deploy their resources and recruit staff to meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide the number of places of standalone child care centres, the number of occasional child care service units, the number of applications for such services and the respective waiting time by district in 2008-09?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : The number of places of aided standalone child care centres and the number of service units providing occasional child care service available in the 11 administrative districts of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in 2008-09 are as follows:

SWD District	Number of Places in Aided Standalone Child Care Centres (for children aged 0-3) ¹	Number of Units Providing Occasional Child Care Service (in Standalone Child Care Centres and Kindergarten-cum-child Care Centres) (for children aged 0-6)
Eastern/Wan Chai	88	18
Central/Western/ Southern & Islands	40	22
Kwun Tong	0	22
Wong Tai Sin/ Sai Kung	0	25
Kowloon City/ Yau Tsim Mong	144	24
Sham Shui Po	62	12
Sha Tin	70	16
Tai Po/North	48	19

Yuen Long	64	16
Tsuen Wan/ Kwai Tsing	102	26
Tuen Mun	64	19
Total	682	219

¹ Child care services for children aged under three are also available in kindergarten-cum-child care centres under the administration of the Education Bureau.

The Administration does not have statistics on the number of applications and the waiting time for child care service and occasional child care service. That said, SWD does monitor closely the service utilisation and understands that there is spare capacity for needy users.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, it is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that the Government will continue to implement anti-violence programme for abusers. Would the Government please inform this Committee of the number of such cases in 2008-09 and the outcome of the anti-violence programme?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : Following the commencement of the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008 on 1 August 2008, the Court may, in granting a non-molestation order under the Domestic Violence Ordinance, require the abuser to attend a programme approved by the Director of Social Welfare (DSW) that seeks to change the attitude and behaviour of the abuser. For this purpose, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has launched a new anti-violence programme (AVP), which is psycho-educational in nature and suitable for different types of abusers. So far, DSW has approved seven programmes operated by the non-governmental organisations.

Since 1 August 2008, SWD has received two referrals from the Court for compulsory attendance of the AVP. The persons concerned were subsequently assigned to the approved programmes and so far, one of the case has successfully completed it.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, it is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that the Government will further develop and continue to implement the Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP) in 2009-10. Would the Government please inform this Committee of the number of cases served and successfully dealt with in 2008-09?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : Following the completion of the two-year pilot project of BIP in March 2008, the Family and Child Protective Services Units of the Social Welfare Department have continued to run the BIP for suitable clients as an integrated component of the counselling service for batterers. In 2008-09, a total of 83 batterers participated in the BIP and as at March 2009, 70 of them have completed the programme successfully.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, it is estimated by the Government that the provision for the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme will be \$18.3 billion in 2009-10, which is close to the 2007-08 actual expenditure. Given that the provision for the CSSA Scheme will not be increased and a sharp economic decline is expected, would the Government please inform this Committee how it can handle a probable upsurge in applications?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : The 2008-09 Revised Estimate at \$19,081 million includes the provision of an additional one-off two months of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients estimated at \$2,078 million. The 2009-10 Estimate of \$18,304 million is, in fact, higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 7.7%, if the above one-off provision is to be discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to cover increased payments which might arise from an upsurge in applications.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the indicators under this Programme, the number of cases served under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme is estimated to be 329 400 in 2009-10, which is the same as that in the 2008-09 Revised Estimate. Would the Administration please inform this Committee why the estimated number of CSSA cases in 2009-10 is the same as that of last year? Does the Administration have any measures to cope with a probable upsurge in CSSA cases? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : The estimation of the projected number of CSSA cases served was made on the basis of the up-to-date statistics available at the time of preparing the estimates. It so happens that the projected number of CSSA cases served in 2009-10 at 329 400 is the same as that of 2008-09. The 2008-09 Revised Estimate at \$19,081 million includes the provision of an additional one-off two months of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients estimated at \$2,078 million. The 2009-10 Estimate of \$18,304 million is, in fact, higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 7.7%, if the above one-off provision is to be discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to meet an upsurge in applications.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated under this Programme that the Social Welfare Department will continue to monitor the progress and performance of the trial employment assistance projects, including the Enhanced New Dawn (ND) Project, the Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP) and the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme (IEAS). In this connection, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of participants of the above projects in 2008-09 and the number of participants who have secured employment? What will the Administration do to help the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) applicants secure employment in times of the financial tsunami?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : The number of participants in the Enhanced ND Project, My STEP and IEAS in 2008-09 are as follows:

- (a) As at end-January 2009, there were 4 722 participants in the Enhanced ND Project. From 1 April 2008 to end-January 2009, 858 participants have secured paid employment with at least 32 working hours a month.
- (b) As at end-January 2009, there were 459 participants in My STEP. From 1 April 2008 to end-January 2009, 178 participants have secured full-time paid employment.
- (c) Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have been commissioned to launch the three-year IEAS projects since 1 October 2008. Up to end-January 2009, a total of 25 270 CSSA able-bodied unemployed recipients have enrolled in the projects. Amongst them, 84 recipients have secured full-time paid employment.

Assistance to CSSA recipients to secure employment is provided through the following programmes/services:

- (a) The Social Welfare Department has commissioned NGOs to operate 60 employment assistance projects under IEAS throughout the territory to provide employment assistance services for all able-bodied unemployed CSSA recipients so as to assist them to secure full-time paid employment and move towards self-reliance. Participants who are assessed as having greater barriers to work and lacking work experience or job skills are selected to receive intensive employment assistance services to enhance their employability.
- (b) My STEP is a trial employment assistance programme which seeks to motivate and assist long-term CSSA able-bodied unemployed youth aged between 15 and 29 to rejoin the workforce.
- (c) The Enhanced ND Project helps single parents and child carers who are on CSSA with their youngest child aged 12 to 14 build up their capacity for work, integrate into society and move to self-reliance through engagement in paid employment.
- (d) The Labour Department adopts multi-pronged and proactive measures to assist job seekers, including CSSA recipients to find jobs as efficiently and as early as possible. These measures include organising thematic job fairs targeted at industries hard hit by the economic downturn and district-based job fairs at shopping centres or community halls and dissemination of vacancy and employment information through various channels.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)073

Question Serial No.

0826

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide information on the number of day care places for the elderly, Self-care (S/C) Hostel/Home for the Aged (H/A) places, Nursing Home (NH) places, Care-and-Attention (C&A) Home places, places purchased from private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and contract home places in each District Council district in 2008-09, as well as the number of applicants waitlisting for these places in each district in 2008-09 and their average waiting time?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : The breakdown of elderly service places by district and by service type is as follows:

District	Number of Places by Service Type					
	Day Care Places	S/C Hostel Places	H/A Places	C & A Places (Note)	NH Places (Note)	EBPS Places
Central & Western	104	0	37	335 (130)	23 (23)	405
Eastern	216	0	136	483 (63)	81 (81)	327
Wan Chai	72	0	0	462	0	54
Southern	88	24	286	1 243	0	397
Islands	40	0	67	317	0	27
Kwun Tong	305	0	0	1 057 (74)	331 (93)	279

District	Number of Places by Service Type					
	Day Care Places	S/C Hostel Places	H/A Places	C & A Places (Note)	NH Places (Note)	EBPS Places
Wong Tai Sin	237	0	34	1 079 (76)	391 (111)	231
Sai Kung	85	0	0	636	270	0
Kowloon City	95	0	7	741 (100)	0	1 195
Sham Shui Po	183	0	30	738 (35)	35 (35)	297
Yau Tsim Mong	132	0	0	98	0	494
Sha Tin	176	0	0	1 170	0	114
Tai Po	44	0	0	1 156	0	100
North	44	0	0	821	254	357
Yuen Long	110	0	0	931 (23)	50 (50)	742
Tsuen Wan	44	0	0	505	316	624
Kwai Tsing	149	0	75	1 727 (51)	119 (119)	636
Tuen Mun	110	0	0	876	216	349
Total :	2 234	24	672	14 375 (552)	2 086 (512)	6 628

Note : Figures in brackets denote the provision in contract homes.

With regard to subsidised residential care places, there were 10 030 and 2 040 new applications for subsidised C&A places and subsidised NH places respectively in 2008-09. Since applicants can indicate preference for more than one district, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) cannot categorise the applications by district. SWD ceased to accept new applications for placement in S/C hostel or H/A on 1 January 2003, hence, no application was received for S/C hostel and H/A places in 2008-09. Regarding waiting time, as all applications for subsidised residential care services are managed under the Central Waiting List for Subsidised Long Term Care Services on a territory-wide basis, there is no separate waiting list for individual districts.

The average waiting time for subsidised C&A and NH places as at end-February 2009 is as follows:

Type of service	Average waiting time (as at end-February 2009) (in months)
C&A places (Subvented / Contract Home)	32
C&A places (Under EBPS)	8
NH places (Subvented / Contract Home)	41

For subsidised day care places, there were 1 959 new applications from April 2008 to February 2009.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, the Government claims that it will continue to provide additional day care places for the elderly in 2009-10. Would the Government please inform this Committee of the number of additional places to be provided in each district?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : An additional 80 day care places will be provided in 2009-10 in four districts, namely Southern, Sham Shui Po, Tsuen Wan and Tai Po, with 20 new places for each district.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please list out the number of places for residential services provided in each District Council district in 2008-09 as well as the number of application for such services, and the average waiting time?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : Distribution of existing/planned provision of residential rehabilitation services by the 11 districts of the Social Welfare Department (SWD)* in 2008-09 is as follows:

Type of Service District	RSCCC ¹	LSCH ²	HW ³	HMMH ⁴	HSMH ⁵	C&A/ SD ⁶	HSPH ⁷	C&A /AB ⁸	SHOS ⁹	SGH (MMHC) ¹⁰
Central & Western/ Southern/ Island	44	170	168	333	547	200	100	375	7	0
Eastern/ Wanchai	0	0	119	85	173	100	58	0	40	8
Kwun Tong	0	0	84	308	230	0	65	0	61	3
Wong Tai Sin/ Sai Kung	12	0	237	184	359	88	100	0	76	17
Kowloon City/ Yau Tsim Mong	0	0	0	220	55	0	0	52	10	0
Sham Shui Po	0	200	169	60	104	0	0	78	30	0
Sha Tin	0	0	206	186	470	102	88	0	0	1
Tai Po/North	24	0	80	80	104	100	0	0	90	32
Yuen Long	0	0	104	169	106	100	50	80	46	0
Tsuen Wan/ Kwai Tsing	30	425	162	189	479	100	0	0	20	3

Tuen Mun	0	612	180	364	431	67	67	240	20	0
Total	110	1407	1509	2178	3058	857	528	825	400	64

*SWD does not have the breakdown according to each District Council district

- 1 Residential Special Child Care Centre
- 2 Long Stay Care Home
- 3 Halfway House
- 4 Hostel for Moderately Mentally Handicapped Persons
- 5 Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons
- 6 Care and Attention Home for the Severely Disabled
- 7 Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons
- 8 Care and Attention Home for the Aged Blind
- 9 Supported Hostel
- 10 Small Group Mildly Mentally Handicapped Children/Integrated Small Group Home

SWD operates a computerised central referral system for waitlisting of various types of residential services on a territory-wide basis. Since the applicants may indicate more than one preference of centre covering more than one district, SWD could not capture information on the number of application and waiting time by district. The territory-wide waiting lists and waiting time for the various residential services are as follows:

Type of Service	Waiting List (as at December 2008)	Average Waiting Time in 2007-08 (months)
RSCCC	57	7.9
LSCH	726	34.0
HW	633	4.6
HMMH	1 351	48.0
HSMH	1 892	78.0
C&A/SD	377	38.4
HSPH	414	89.6
C&A/AB	47	6.2
SHOS	784	20.4
SGH(MMHC)	85	14.3

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please list out the number of school social work cases served and school social workers in each District Council District in 2008-09? Would the Administration consider allocating more resources in 2009-10 to strengthen the provision of school social work service (SSWS) in Tin Shui Wai district? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply : According to the District Council's geographical demarcation, the number of secondary schools provided with subvented SSWS pursuant to the established policy of 'one school social worker for each school' in the 2008/09 school year is given as follows:

District	Number of schools with subvented SSWS
Central & Western	13
Eastern	35
Southern	20
Wan Chai	17
Kowloon City	39
Kwun Tong	34
Sham Shui Po	28
Wong Tai Sin	26
Yau Tsim Mong	18
Islands	11
Kwai Tsing	34
North	20
Sai Kung	28
Sha Tin	49
Tai Po	24
Tsuen Wan	13
Tuen Mun	38
Yuen Long *	39
Total	486

* Out of these 39 schools, 21 are in Tin Shui Wai.

We have maintained statistics on the overall number of cases handled through the SSWS but not the breakdown by individual districts. In 2008-09, the average caseload is estimated to be 85 cases per school social worker, which is the same as those in the 2005-06 to 2007-08 financial years.

Given that each secondary school in Hong Kong is already provided with a school social worker and the overall caseload has been steady, the Administration has no plan to increase resources for this service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : There was an increase of 21% in the number of supervision of Community Service Orders (CSO) cases served in 2007-08. According to the 2008-09 Revised Estimate, the number of cases has increased by 13%. This represents a total increase of 26% during the three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09. However, no additional social workers have been provided for the service by the Government in the past three years. Since this rising trend has still not been reflected in the 2009-10 Estimate and the number of CSO cases is not expected to increase in 2009-10, no additional manpower will be provided by the Social Welfare Department (SWD). Hence, the average number of cases served per social worker per year has increased from 107 in 2006-07 to 134.5 at present. How does SWD draw up the service and manpower planning, and cope with the 30% increased caseload?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The number of cases put under CSO is affected by a number of factors such as the crime rate, the number of offenders arrested by the police and convicted by court, and the courts' sentencing decisions, etc. The following table shows the actual number of cases served over the past years.

Year	Cases Served	Increase in %
2005-06	2 522	-
2006-07	2 567	1.8%
2007-08	3 115	21.3%
2008-09	3 228 ^{Note 1}	3.6% ^{Note 2}

^{Note 1} The figure is a revised estimate.

^{Note 2} The figure is calculated based on the revised estimate of 2008-09.

To cope with changes in the workload of CSO, apart from re-deploying staff, SWD will also streamline the work procedures, such as reducing unnecessary work steps and simplifying the report format, so as to enhance the productivity of staff and reduce their workload.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the manpower of medical social services in the government sector, the number of cases served by medical social workers (MSWs) employed by the Government in 2008-09 was 173 774 according to the Revised Estimate. Since the total number of MSWs employed by the Government in 2008-09 was 381, the annual caseload per worker should be 456. Please inform this Committee why the Social Welfare Department (SWD) states that the caseload per worker was 72.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The figure of 173 774 is the total number of cases served by the 381 MSWs of SWD in the year of 2008-09, whereas the average caseload of 72 per worker is the average number of active cases in hand per MSW at the end of each month during the same period.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding occasional child care service, the original plan of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) was to increase the number of occasional child care service units from 220 to 221 in 2008-09. However, it turned out that the number of occasional child care service units was reduced to 219 and will be further reduced to 218 in 2009-10. Would the Administration please explain why there is such a reduction and how the service need can be met?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : In 2008-09, two occasional child care service units were closed down because of their low utilisation. On the other hand, a new unit was set up in a district with established service demand. This resulted in a net reduction of one unit. In 2009-10, another occasional child care service unit will be closed down because of the low service demand in the area served by the unit. SWD will continue to monitor the situation and deploy resources to districts with service need.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)080

Question Serial No.

0879

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards the day services, pre-school services and employment services for persons with disabilities, the Government will provide 140 additional day activity centre places, 210 additional early education and training centre places, 144 additional special child care centre places, 320 additional integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre places in 2009-10. Concerning the proposed increase as mentioned above, please list out by service types, the locations of the service units, numbers of places and when they will be provided as well as the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The requested information is provided below:

Service	Location	Capacity	Target Implementation Date	Estimated Provision (Full Year) (\$ million)
Day Activity Centre	1. Kwai Chung	50	4 th quarter of 2009-10	4.0
	2. Kowloon City	80	4 th quarter of 2009-10	6.4
	3. Fanling	10	3 rd quarter of 2009-10	0.8
Early Education & Training Centre	1. Shatin	60	3 rd quarter of 2009-10	2.8
	2. Wong Tai Sin	60	3 rd quarter of 2009-10	2.8
	3. a site in Wong Tai Sin, pending completion of the necessary preparation work	60	To be confirmed	2.8
	4. a site in Tin Shui Wai, pending completion of the necessary preparation work	30	To be confirmed	1.4

Special Child Care Centre	1. Shatin	24	3 rd quarter of 2009-10	2.8
	2. Wong Tai Sin	48	3 rd quarter of 2009-10	5.5
	3. a site in Wong Tai Sin, pending completion of the necessary preparation work.	48	To be confirmed	5.5
	4. a site in Tin Shui Wai, pending completion of the necessary preparation work.	24	To be confirmed	2.8
Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre	1. Kwai Chung	160	4 th quarter of 2009-10	5.1
	2. Kowloon City	160	4 th quarter of 2009-10	5.1

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Concerning employment services for persons with disabilities, the number of sheltered workshop places provided by the subvented sector is expected to increase by 20 in 2009-10 with the cost per place per month to increase by \$31, while the cost per place per month of the sheltered workshops run by the government sector will increase by \$108. Would the Administration please explain why there is a cost difference between the subvented sector and the government sector?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The cost figures for the government sector reflect the full cost of services rendered by the Social Welfare Department, which include the cost of staff fringe benefits or rent charged to different expenditure heads and other non-cash expenditure such as depreciation, in addition to the expenditure reflected under Head 170 Social Welfare Department. On the other hand, the cost figures for the subvented sector are the net total cash provision required after taking fee income into account. No direct comparison of costs between the two sectors should be drawn.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” under “Services for Offenders” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will launch a two-year pilot project to enhance the probation service at designated court(s) to assist the convicted young drug offenders to start afresh through the provision of intensive counselling/treatment programmes. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the project and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Pursuant to the Security Bureau’s policy initiative to tackle the drug abuse problem and to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse, SWD has earmarked additional resources in 2009-10 to launch a two-year pilot project to enhance probation service for drug offenders. Four time-limited Assistant Social Work Officer (ASWO) posts, two each for the Probation Offices serving Kowloon City Magistrates’ Courts and Kwun Tong Magistrates’ Courts, will be provided. The pilot project will include services and programmes such as probation supervision with enhanced judicial involvement, more focused, structured and intensive treatment and counselling programmes, employment assistance, school guidance, regular urine tests, etc. The aim is to help young drug offenders quit the drug abusing habit and turn over a new leaf.

SWD will work closely with the Judiciary, the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Government Laboratory and other concerned non-governmental organisations to ensure smooth service delivery during the pilot period.

The provision for this pilot project is estimated to be \$1.8 million per annum.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The actual number of cases served by the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) operated by the subvented sector in 2007-08 was 27 110 whereas the number of cases served in the 2008-09 Revised Estimate was 28 343. A rising trend is noted. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the reasons for a projected reduction to 28 326 in the number of cases served in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : We estimate the number of cases to be served by IFSCs with reference to the latest figures available at the time. For the 2008-09 Revised Estimate, the figures are projections based on the actual number of active cases brought forward from 2007-08 and new/re-activated cases handled in the first two quarters of 2008-09. For the 2009-10 Estimate, the figures are projections based on the number of cases handled in the first two quarters of 2008-09.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 121 of the 2009-10 Budget Speech by the Financial Secretary that an integrated community centre for mental wellness (ICCMW) in Tin Shui Wai would be set up next month. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the provision for the centre and when will it review the plan? Would the Administration consider setting up similar centres in other districts?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The expenditure of the ICCMW in Tin Shui Wai is estimated to be \$3.9 million in 2009-10. Subject to the effectiveness of this new service delivery mode, the Social Welfare Department will consider adopting such mode in other districts through revamping the existing community mental health support services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is projected that the cost per case per month for outreaching social work will be reduced from \$492 in the 2008-09 Revised Estimate to \$485 in the 2009-10 Estimate. Would the Administration please explain why the cost is expected to drop under inflation?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The total expenditure for outreaching social work service in 2009-10 is estimated to increase by 3.5% as compared to the 2008-09 Revised Estimate while the number of cases is estimated to increase by 5%. As a result, the cost per case per month will show a small decrease of 1.4%. It should be noted that one additional social worker post has been allocated to each of the 16 outreaching social work teams (OSWTs) since October 2008, thus enabling the OSWTs to cope with the increase in caseload.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With regard to the workload and manpower of probation services, the number of cases served has increased by 12% from 2006-07 to 2008-09, i.e. an average increase of 4% per year. The Social Welfare Department (SWD), however, will only increase the manpower of the services by 3% in 2009-10. Would SWD please inform this Committee how it will cope with the excess workload and provide support to the staff members concerned?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The number of probation cases is affected by a number of factors including the crime rate, the number of offenders arrested by the police and convicted by the court and the courts' sentencing decisions. The following table shows the actual number of cases served over the past years.

Year	Cases Served
2005-06	5 554
2006-07	5 318
2007-08	5 631

SWD will cope with changes in the workload of probation service through re-deployment of existing staff as and when necessary.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2009-10, the Government will provide additional recurrent funding of about \$19 million to enhance the care for persons with disabilities (PWDs) and provide the necessary training. With 6 200 PWDs waitlisting for residential services, 3 200 for day training or vocational rehabilitation service and 3 000 for pre-school rehabilitation service, has the Government drawn up any policy objective and long-term plan to meet the service demand?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : On residential care services, the Administration will continue to closely monitor the service demand and, as recommended in the Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan, adopt a three-pronged approach to implement the following measures, viz:

- (a) to regulate the residential care homes for PWDs so as to ensure their service quality on the one hand while helping the market to develop residential care homes of different types and operational modes on the other;
- (b) to support non-governmental organisations to develop self-financing homes; and
- (c) to continue to steadily increase the number of subsidised residential care home places.

In tandem, the Administration has been actively developing day care and community support services, so as to provide the PWDs with the necessary training and support to facilitate their continuous living at home and full integration into the community.

Moreover, the Administration will continue to identify premises and resources to steadily increase the provision of vocational rehabilitation and pre-school rehabilitation services to meet service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Government plans to provide 28 additional places for residential homes for children (RHC) in 2009-10. How would the Government allocate these places? What is the current waiting time for admission to RHC and small group homes (SGHs)? As the number of children waiting for admission to RHC and SGHs is increasing and there is a serious shortage of residential care places, the waiting time gets even longer. What measures will the Government take to address the pressing demand for these places?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : On allocation method, the Administration will invite operators of existing RHC to provide 28 additional places through in-situ expansion. On waiting time, generally speaking, if an applicant does not indicate any preference for a particular RHC or SGH, a placement can normally be arranged within three months.

Besides providing 28 additional places for RHC in 2009-10, the Administration will continue to monitor the service demand and consider further strengthening the RHC and SGHs services if necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Budget Speech that the “Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP)” will be extended to other districts in March 2009. Would the Administration please inform this Committee which districts will be covered and what the amount of provision is? With regard to the implementation of the first phase of the project, please list in the table below by district the number of children served, the number of home-based child carers, the waiting time, and the breakdown of provision by individual item.

Item	Figure	Provision for Individual Item
The number of children served by district		
The number of home-based child carers by district		
The number of home-based child care service hours by district		
The number of applicants waiting for the service by district		
The waiting time by district		
Publicity and public education programmes	Subject(s) of the programmes:	
Training for home-based child carers	Number of training programmes and the estimated number of participants	
	Total:	

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the pilot NSCCP. The provision is for a period of three years starting from 2008-09, covering six projects in Tung Chung, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Chung, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Kwun Tong which have commenced operation since October 2008 as well as five other projects in Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung, Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong, Tai Po/North, Sha Tin, and Eastern/Wan Chai which will commence operation within March 2009. The annual allocation for each project is \$1.27 million.

Figures regarding the implementation of the six projects in the first phase from November to December 2008 are provided in the table below:

Item \ SWD District where the project is located	Tsuen Wan /Kwai Tsing	Kwun Tong	Sham Shui Po	Central Western, Southern and Islands	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	Total
The total number of children served in November 2008 and December 2008	65	25	62	66	73	37	328
The number of home-based child care places provided (as at December 2008) ¹	40	55	120	26	43	41	325
The number of home-based child care service hours	350	1 340	427	1 241	757	821	4 936
The number of training programmes conducted for home-based child carers and volunteers ²	2	2	2	37	13	5	61
The number of participants of the training programmes conducted for home-based child carers and volunteers ²	5	64	51	42	18	114	294

¹ The number of home-based child carers is not available.

² The number of training programmes provided exclusively for home-based child carers is not available.

There is no waiting list since the launch of the project. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) is not aware of any needy children who were unable to receive NSCCP service.

Service operators have conducted promotional and networking activities in their respective districts. SWD does not have statistics on the number or subject of such activities.

The provision for individual item is not listed in the table above because the annual allocation to the projects is in the form of a lump sum grant, and save for the amount set aside for fee subsidy, service operators can deploy the allocated amount flexibly.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will increase funding by about \$55 million to provide 650 residential care places in 2009-10. How many of these places are purchased from private homes under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and how many are provided by the two new contract homes? Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the types of these places, the locations of the homes which provide them, and the time that these places will become available?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The additional recurrent funding of about \$55 million includes about \$17 million for providing 150 additional subsidised residential care places in two newly built contract residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), and \$38 million for 500 additional subsidised residential care places to be provided through the EBPS.

The two newly built contract RCHEs are located in Tung Chung New Town and Sai Ying Pun, and will provide 90 and 60 subsidised residential care places respectively. Among the additional subsidised places, 70% are nursing home places and 30% are care-and-attention (C&A) places. The two concerned contract RCHEs are tentatively scheduled to commence services in 2011-12.

The 500 additional subsidised residential care places to be purchased through EBPS are C&A places. Private RCHEs throughout the territory will be invited to submit applications for joining EBPS. Taking into account the time required to vet the applications and the time required by the selected private RCHEs to make arrangements for meeting the EBPS spacing and staffing requirements,

we expect that the additional EBPS places will start coming on stream by early 2010.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2009-10, the number of outreaching social work cases served is anticipated to increase by 702 as compared with that of last year and the Administration has indicated that manpower provision of the service of outreaching social work teams (OSWTs) will be increased. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has allocated one additional social worker post for each of the 16 OSWTs with effect from October 2008. The full-year additional recurrent provision for these additional posts is about \$4.8 million, on top of the existing annual provision of \$73 million for the 16 OSWTs in 2008-09.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 that the Administration will set up a new integrated children and youth services centre (ICYSC) in Tseung Kwan O. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the expenditure involved and the schedule for setting up the centre?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The new ICYSC in Tseung Kwan O will be formed by pooling surplus resources for youth services on a cost-neutral basis as agreed with the non-governmental organisation that operates the services. The estimated expenditure involved is about \$5.8 million per annum. The new ICYSC is expected to commence operation in the fourth quarter of 2009.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the annual allocation of funds for application under the Tang Shiu Kin and Ho Tim Charitable Fund and the Kwan Fong Trust Fund for the Needy from 2006-07 to 2008-09; and of their current utilisation? Will the Government inject funds into these two charitable trust funds in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The approved allocation and actual expenditure for social relief grant under the two charitable trust funds from 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as follows:-

Charitable Trust Fund	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Approved Annual Allocation	Actual Expenditure	Approved Annual Allocation	Actual Expenditure	Approved Annual Allocation	Actual Expenditure up to 31 January 2009
Tang Shiu Kin and Ho Tim Charitable Fund	\$ million 3.70	\$ million 3.60	\$ million 3.00	\$ million 2.90	\$ million 3.00	\$ million 2.68
Kwan Fong Trust Fund for the Needy	0.35	0.35	0.40	0.23	0.40	0.28

Since these two charitable trust funds are not government funds, they do not require government injection.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : According to the plan, there will be three social workers working in the Young Offender Assessment Panel (YOAP) in 2009-10. Considering that problems of young offenders are getting more complicated, would the Administration please inform this Committee whether the planned manpower is adequate to meet the needs?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The YOAP is a special board jointly set up by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and the Correctional Services Department (CSD) to provide co-ordinated professional views to judges and magistrates on the most appropriate rehabilitation programme in the sentencing of young offenders.

The three social workers who serve the YOAP are able to cope with the existing workload. In the event of a sudden upsurge of cases, other social workers in SWD's Corrections Section may be deployed to assist, if necessary. SWD will continue to strengthen the collaboration and partnership with CSD to ensure smooth service delivery.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In the years from 2006-07 to 2008-09, amongst the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients, how many were children born of both parents who are non-Hong Kong (HK) residents in each year? What is their age distribution? What is the expenditure on CSSA involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Since August 2006, we have started to collect statistics on CSSA applications involving children born in HK by Mainland parents who are non-HK residents. Up to the end of January 2009, there are 272 CSSA children whose parents are Mainlanders and non-HK residents. The breakdown by year is as below:

Year	Number of children
2006-07 (August 2006 – March 2007)	102
2007-08 (April 2007 – March 2008)	116
2008-09 (April 2008 – January 2009)	54
Total	272

The age profile of these children at the time of application is set out below:

Age Group	Number of children (August 2006 – January 2009)
Below 2	81
2 - 3	137
4 - 6	39
7 - 12	11
13 - 14	2
15 & above	2
Total	272

The amount of CSSA standard rates for an able-bodied child ranges from \$1,455 per month to \$2,200 per month depending on the number of eligible members in the applicant's household. They are also provided with special grants including rent allowance, school fees, school-related expenses, etc. We do not have separate records of the total CSSA expenditure on this group of children.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please provide a breakdown of the number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases by nature of cases in each constituency of the District Councils?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The number of CSSA cases by nature of cases and by geographical districts as at end-January 2009 are as follows:

Geographical district *	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central and Western	2 373	244	281	255	142	355	51	3 701
Eastern	8 498	1 116	1 020	1 579	700	979	337	14 229
Islands	1 672	270	412	904	558	806	209	4 831
Kowloon City	8 364	682	1 156	1 485	489	1 349	269	13 794
Kwai Tsing	14 517	2 131	2 100	3 371	1 995	3 191	544	27 849
Kwun Tong	19 913	1 655	2 423	4 201	2 244	3 242	594	34 272
North	7 212	735	1 364	2 190	699	1 349	462	14 011
Sai Kung	4 053	874	1 089	1 578	870	950	280	9 694
Sha Tin	9 023	1 381	1 786	2 530	982	1 576	386	17 664
Sham Shui Po	14 117	1 090	2 291	2 814	1 377	3 789	497	25 975
Southern	5 517	1 145	655	738	454	380	193	9 082
Tai Po	5 831	447	934	1 258	389	757	232	9 848
Tsuen Wan	4 951	414	560	1 142	363	882	244	8 556
Tuen Mun	10 553	2 215	2 375	2 781	756	2 808	507	21 995

Wan Chai	1 489	94	179	141	63	337	110	2 413
Wong Tai Sin	13 013	1 236	1 775	2 816	1 516	2 051	371	22 778
Yau Tsim Mong	5 587	420	1 074	1 199	446	2 747	336	11 809
Yuen Long	12 255	1 672	2 909	5 188	1 862	4 200	729	28 815
Total	148 938	17 821	24 383	36 170	15 905	31 748	6 351	281 316

Notes: * The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the distribution of the ten additional medical social workers (MSWs) in 2009-10? Has the Administration assessed if the planned manpower of 391 social workers are sufficient to support the psychiatric outpatient service newly introduced by the Hospital Authority (HA)?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has secured additional resources to create ten MSW posts at SWD's medical social service units in various hospitals and clinics of the HA for strengthening social work support to patients and their families/carers. These MSWs are to meet new service demands arising from the enhanced psychiatric outpatient, rehabilitation and oncology services put in place by the HA over the years. SWD will continue to liaise closely with the HA to ensure that appropriate psychiatric medical social work services can be provided to dovetail with the service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The utilisation rate of sheltered workshops (SW) exceeds 100% in both 2007-08 and 2008-09. It is expected that the situation will not be improved as reflected in the 2009-10 Estimate. Would the Administration please inform this Committee if it has any measures to resolve this situation?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Noting that the daily attendance rate of SW stood at around 90% for a considerable period of time, the Social Welfare Department has implemented an over-enrolment arrangement in SWs since 2003-04 with a view to enabling more persons with disabilities (PWDs) to benefit from the service. Despite this arrangement, the number of PWDs served at any one time has not exceeded the capacity of the SW.

To further enhance the service, there will be an additional provision of 320 Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre (IVRSC) places and 20 SW places in 2009-10. IVRSC, incorporating the elements of SW and Supported Employment, has been implemented since April 2004 to provide one-stop integrated vocational rehabilitation services. Applicants for SW can also be admitted to IVRSCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will provide additional funding of about \$37 million to residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) taking care of infirm and demented elders. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the amount of Infirmity Care Supplement (ICS) and Dementia Supplement (DS), as well as the type and number of homes to be provided with additional funding? Please provide the information on funding allocation and other details in the table below.

(a) Funding Allocation

	ICS	DS
Amount (\$)		

(b) Details of Funding Allocation

	Subsidised RCHEs		Private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)	
Infirmity Supplement	Number of homes:	Number of beneficiaries:	Number of homes:	Number of beneficiaries:
	Amount:		Amount:	
Dementia Supplement	Number of homes:	Number of beneficiaries:	Number of homes:	Number of beneficiaries:
	Amount:		Amount:	

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The required information is as follows:

(a) Distribution of the additional recurrent funding of \$37 million:

	ICS	DS
Amount of allocation	\$ 20 million	\$17 million
	Total : \$37 million	

(b) Projected allocation of ICS and DS (including the additional recurrent funding of \$37 million) in 2009-10 is as follows :

	Subvented RCHEs		Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	
ICS	Projected Number of RCHEs : 80	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 1 100	Projected Number of RCHEs : 40	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 160
	Amount of Allocation : \$59 million		Amount of Allocation : \$9 million	
DS	Projected Number of RCHEs : 130	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 2 730	Projected Number of RCHEs : 129	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 1 230
	Amount of Allocation : \$30 million		Amount of Allocation : \$13 million	

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will provide additional funding of about \$37 million to residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) taking care of infirm and demented elders. What are the criteria used in allocating the funding to different RCHEs? As regards subsidised residential care services, as at December 2008, what were the amounts of Infirm Care Supplement (ICS) and Dementia Supplement (DS) allocated to subsidised RCHEs, and the number of elders covered by the supplements? What was the number of elders who had met the eligibility criteria as assessed by the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams (CGATs) and Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of the Hospital Authority (HA) but yet to receive supplement? Please reply in the table below.

	Total number of infirm and demented elders in subsidised residential care homes	Number of elders with allocation of supplement (as at December 2008)	Provision (\$)	Number of elders without allocation of supplement (as at December 2008)
For the care of infirm elders				
For the care of demented elders				

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : To enhance the support for infirm and demented elders staying in subsidised residential care places, an additional recurrent funding of \$37 million will be provided to RCHEs taking care of these elders as ICS and DS. The additional funding represents a substantial increase of 53% in the provision of ICS and DS.

The eligibility of elders for ICS is confirmed by HA's CGATs. According to the number of infirm elders in individual RCHEs, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will allocate ICS to RCHEs on a pro-rata basis. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

As regards DS, SWD will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in these RCHEs will then be confirmed by HA's PGTs. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme providing subsidised residential care places. DS will be allocated to RCHEs on a pro-rata basis according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

The allocation of ICS and DS in 2008-09 is as follows -

	Number of qualified cases	Number of qualified cases with allocation (as at end-December 2008)	Annual allocation in 2008-09 (\$ million)	Number of qualified cases without allocation (as at end-December 2008)
ICS	1 226	1 226	45.4	0
DS	2 542	2 542	24.3	0

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) How many applications for dental grants by elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients have been approved over the past three years (i.e. 2006-07 to 2008-09) (for months with available data)?
- (b) How many items have been approved for each category of dental services (extraction of teeth, dentures, crowns, bridges, scaling, fillings, root canal treatment and others)? What is the total amount of payment involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) The statistics on elderly CSSA recipients aged 60 and above claiming dental grants for 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as below:

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (up to January 2009)
No. of claims	2 696	2 989	2 703
Total amount of dental grants claimed	\$11.5 million	\$13.2 million	\$12.4 million

- (b) We do not have separate records of treatment items (such as extraction, dentures, crowns, bridges, scaling, fillings and root canal treatment etc.)

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) How many non-elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme recipients applied for dental grants (please provide a breakdown of the numbers of adults and children) over the past three years (i.e. 2006-07 to 2008-09) (for months with available data)? How many cases have been approved?
- (b) How many items have been approved for each category of dental services (extraction of teeth, dentures, crowns, bridges, scaling, fillings, root canal treatment and others)? What is the total amount of payment involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Under the CSSA Scheme, the dental grant for the old, disabled or ill health aims to cover the actual expenses or the ceiling amount of the treatment item (extraction, dentures, crowns, bridges, scaling, fillings and root canal treatment) set by the Social Welfare Department in consultation with the Department of Health.

For able-bodied CSSA recipients aged below 60 who are in genuine financial hardship and unable to afford the dental expenses, the Director of Social Welfare may consider, on an exceptional basis depending on the merits of individual cases, a discretionary payment of special grant to cover the expenses.

- (a) The statistics on non-elderly CSSA recipients (i) aged under 19 and (ii) aged 19-59 claiming dental grants for 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as below:

(i) CSSA recipients aged under 19

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (up to January 2009)
Number of claims	5	9	19
Total amount of dental grants claimed	\$2,600	\$6,265	\$40,474

(ii) CSSA recipients aged 19-59

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (up to January 2009)
Number of claims	1 346	1 428	1 363
Total amount of dental grants claimed	\$5.0 million	\$5.4 million	\$5.3 million

(b) We do not have separate records of treatment items (such as extraction, dentures, crowns, bridges, scaling, fillings and root canal treatment, etc).

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the provision of disregarded earnings (DE) for the past year (i.e. 2008-09), what is the total amount of income that was disregarded? What is the total Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) expenditure reduced after taking into account the recipients' assessable income? What is the average number of CSSA cases that have benefited from the provision of DE?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The statistics on CSSA recipients benefiting from the provision of DE under the CSSA Scheme in 2008-09 are as follows:

Year	Amount of DE (\$ million)	Remaining amount of earnings taken as assessable income (\$ million)	Number of CSSA recipients benefited
2008-09 (up to January 2009)	\$709.1	\$699.3	38 279

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Government please provide information on the expenditure on the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases receiving rent allowance, and the number of cases receiving maximum rent allowance (MRA) out of the total number of these cases, in 2007-08 and 2008-09? Please provide a breakdown by the types of buildings in which the recipients were living (private housing or public housing) and the number of household members.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The estimated expenditures on rent allowance for 2007-08 and 2008-09 (up to January 2009) are \$3,579 million and \$2,275 million respectively. The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 was lower mainly because the Government paid three months' rent for lower income families living in the rental units of the Hong Kong Housing Authority and the Hong Kong Housing Society. The number of CSSA cases in (a) public housing estates and (b) private housing receiving rent allowance by number of eligible members and level of rent allowance received as at March 2008 and January 2009 are as below:

(a) The number of cases in public housing estates receiving rent allowance by number of eligible members and level of rent allowance received.

Number of eligible members	March 2008			January 2009		
	Receiving rent allowance less than MRA	Receiving MRA	Total	Receiving rent allowance less than MRA	Receiving MRA	Total
1	60 344	2 234	62 578	62 609	2 040	64 649
2	41 106	156	41 262	42 017	202	42 219
3	23 123	32	23 155	22 804	44	22 848
4	15 886	30	15 916	14 506	28	14 534
5	6 559	13	6 572	5 874	20	5 894
6 and above	2 782	3	2 785	2 313	2	2 315
Total	149 800	2 468	152 268	150 123	2 336	152 459

(b) The number of cases in private housing receiving rent allowance by number of eligible members and level of rent allowance received.

Number of eligible members	March 2008			January 2009		
	Receiving rent allowance less than MRA	Receiving MRA	Total	Receiving rent allowance less than MRA	Receiving MRA	Total
1	8 109	14 072	22 181	7 396	14 291	21 687
2	6 553	4 648	11 201	5 876	4 691	10 567
3	3 844	2 826	6 670	3 391	2 705	6 096
4	1 526	1 175	2 701	1 306	1 188	2 494
5	406	397	803	352	407	759
6 and above	221	127	348	209	146	355
Total	20 659	23 245	43 904	18 530	23 428	41 958

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Batch 1 to Batch 4 of the “Intensive Employment Assistance Projects (IEAPs)” were completed in September 2008. Please give an account of the use of funds in the four batches of IEAPs. Are there any surplus? If yes, what is the amount? How will the Government make use of the surplus?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The estimated expenditure for the four batches of IEAPs was \$260 million. The actual expenditure will be known after the non-governmental organisation operators have submitted the audited accounts for the projects.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)106

Question Serial No.

2599

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the number of fraud and abuse cases on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA), including (a) newly reported cases; and (b) established fraud and abuse cases, and the amount of payment involved over the past three years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2008-09).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The number of fraud cases on CSSA in 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (up to February 2009) are as follows:

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (As at end-February 2009)
(a) Report of suspected fraud cases	4 769	4 469	4 039
(b) Established fraud cases	896	1 021	740
(c) Amount of payment involved	\$50.5 million	\$48.9 million	\$42.0 million

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide a breakdown of the number of Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) cases (by Guangdong Province and Fujian Province) and the expenditure involved over the past three years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2008-09).

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The number of PCSSA recipients residing in Guangdong and Fujian and the total expenditure from 2006-07 to 2007-08 and the corresponding estimated figures for 2008-09 are as follows:

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (estimated)
Number of PCSSA recipients residing in Guangdong	3 192	3 130	2 965
Number of PCSSA recipients residing in Fujian	116	151	180
Total number of PCSSA recipients	3 308	3 281	3 145
Total expenditure	\$100 million	\$102 million	\$104 million

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With the provision of additional resource of about \$25 million in helping victims of domestic violence, please provide the cost and subvention breakdown by each service unit, both in the government sector and the subvented sector, as estimated in 2009-10? What are the additional manpower strength by grades, and the estimated additional service output of each of these service units? Please provide the information by using the table below:

Item	Additional Manpower Strengths by Grades	Estimated Additional Service Output	Additional Recurrent Funding
Increase of social workers			
Increase of clinical psychologists (CPs)			
Further development of batterer intervention programmes (BIP)			
Strengthened support for crisis centres			
Strengthened support for refuge centres for women			
		Total	\$25 million

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The details and the estimated breakdown of the additional allocation of \$24.5 million are as follows:

Item	Additional Manpower Strengths by Grade	Estimated Additional Service Output	Additional Annual Recurrent Funding
Increase of social workers	12 posts of social work officer grade will be created for the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of the Social Welfare Department (SWD).	To enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence case; reduce the average caseload per social worker in FCPSUs from 45 in 2008-09 to 44 in 2009-10; and further develop the BIP in collaboration with CPUs.	About \$6.4 million
Increase of CPs	Two posts of CPs will be created for the Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs) of SWD.	To increase the number of cases to be handled by CPUs annually by 120; and further develop the BIP in collaboration with FCPSUs.	About \$1.4 million
Further development of the BIP	The above additional manpower allocated to FCPSUs and CPUs will enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the BIP. There is no breakdown of manpower specifically allocated to the BIP.	It is anticipated that about 90 batterers will participate in the BIP in 2009-10.	There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated to the BIP as it is an integrated component of the counselling service for batterers.
Strengthened support for crisis centres, refuge centres for women and New Comers Ward	These centres are operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, they have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.	Details to be worked out with the concerned NGOs.	About \$16.7 million
		Total	\$24.5 million

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the number of teachers (including centre heads, officers-in-charge and child care workers) and students of child care centres (CCCs) in Hong Kong.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Man-kwong

Reply : A group grant calculated on the basis of actual enrolment is provided to each CCC for the employment of child care staff. The non-governmental organisations operating CCCs have the flexibility to deploy their resources to recruit child care staff to meet service needs.

As of December 2008, there were 1 353 children in standalone CCCs in total.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Budget Speech of the Financial Secretary that care for needy elders will be strengthened by “providing a total of 650 additional subsidised residential care places”. To what extent will the waiting time for such places be shortened by the additional provision? What is the current number of elders waiting for admission to such places?

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply : The additional 650 subsidised residential care places include 150 places to be provided in two newly built contract residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and 500 places to be purchased from private RCHEs through the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS).

The two newly built contract RCHEs will provide 70% nursing home (NH) places and 30% care-and-attention (C&A) places. The 500 additional places to be purchased through EBPS are all C&A places.

As at end-February 2009, there were 17 966 applicants waitlisted for subsidised C&A places and 6 303 applicants waitlisted for subsidised NH places. As the waiting time for these subsidised places are affected by many factors, we are unable to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional provision.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Budget Speech of the Financial Secretary that for the rehabilitation services, ten additional medical social workers (MSWs) will be recruited to allow more timely services to be provided to patients and their families, and new measures will be provided to enhance mental health service. How many patients are expected to benefit from the enhanced services? What is the current number of people waiting for these services?

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has secured additional resources to create ten MSW posts to meet new service demands arising from the enhanced psychiatric outpatient, rehabilitation and oncology services put in place by the Hospital Authority over the years. It is estimated that each MSW will be able to handle around 70 active cases per month. There is no waiting list for medical social services.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In his speech moving the Appropriation Bill, the Financial Secretary said that he planned to extend the “Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project” (NSCCP). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the expenditure involved and the details of the extension of the Project, as well as the districts likely to be covered and the estimated additional number of beneficiaries in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the pilot NSCCP. The provision is for a period of three years starting from 2008-09, and covers the six projects in Tung Chung, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Chung, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Kwun Tong which have commenced operation since October 2008; as well as five other projects in Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung, Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong, Tai Po/North, Sha Tin, and Eastern/Wan Chai which will commence operation within March 2009. These projects will altogether provide at least 286 home-based child care places and 154 centre based care group places.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In his Speech moving the Appropriation Bill (paragraph 121), the Financial Secretary said, “To support the enhanced psychiatric outpatient, rehabilitation and oncology services given by the Hospital Authority in recent years, I will provide funding for ten additional medical social workers (MSWs). This will allow more timely services to be provided to patients and their families. The first integrated community centre for mental wellness in Tin Shui Wai will be set up next month. It will provide one-stop community support and rehabilitation services to local residents.” Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the allocation of the increased funding and manpower for the above services by hospital clusters in 2009-10? Is there any plan to provide one-stop community support and rehabilitation services in other districts?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : An additional recurrent provision of \$4.5 million is allocated for the creation of ten MSW posts in 2009-10. These MSWs will support the medical social services units in various hospitals and clinics with enhanced psychiatric outpatient, rehabilitation and oncology services.

The annual expenditure of the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness in Tin Shui Wai is estimated to be \$3.9 million. If this new service delivery mode proves effective, the Social Welfare Department will consider adopting such mode in other districts through revamping the existing community mental health support services.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In his speech moving the Appropriation Bill, the Financial Secretary said that “...some families face great pressure as a result of the economic downturn. To further support families in need and victims of domestic violence, I will provide additional recurrent funding of about \$25 million to increase the number of social workers and clinical psychologists dealing with domestic violence cases. We will further develop batterer intervention programmes (BIP) and strengthen support for crisis centres and refuge centres for women.” (paragraph 120) Please inform this Committee of the details of the plan to further develop the BIP and the number of additional staff to be provided.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The two-year pilot project of BIP launched by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) was completed in March 2008 and it had been proven to be effective in helping abusers change their abusive behaviour. SWD had shared its experience of the pilot project with relevant stakeholders and developed user manuals for use by trained professionals. Following the completion of the pilot project, the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of SWD have continued to run the BIP for suitable clients as part of their counselling service. Besides, SWD will further study and develop suitable treatment models for different types of batterers. In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists will be allocated to FCPSUs and Clinical Psychology Units respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the BIP.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In his speech for moving the Appropriation Bill, the Financial Secretary said that “we will provide additional recurrent funding of about \$37 million to residential care homes taking care of infirm elders and those with dementia” (paragraph 117). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the above arrangement and the estimated additional number of elderly beneficiaries?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : To enhance the support for infirm and demented elders staying in subsidised residential care places, an additional recurrent funding of \$37 million will be provided to residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) taking care of these elders as Infirm Care Supplement (ICS) and Dementia Supplement (DS). The additional funding represents a substantial increase of 53% in the provision of ICS and DS.

Among the additional provision of \$37 million, \$20 million will be provided to subvented RCHEs and RCHEs under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) taking care of infirm elders, while \$17 million will be provided to subvented RCHEs and EBPS homes taking care of demented elders. The initiative will enable the RCHEs to employ additional staff, including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nurses (registered or enrolled nurses), health workers and care workers, etc. to enhance the care for infirm and demented elders. It is estimated that an additional 1 449 elders will benefit from the additional provision in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to launch publicity and public education programmes on prevention of domestic violence”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details? What was the expenditure involved in this respect in the past year (i.e. 2008-09)? What are the work plan and the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : SWD has since 2002 launched a series of territory-wide publicity and district-based programmes on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence” to enhance public awareness of the need to strengthen families and prevent domestic violence. In 2008-09, a total amount of \$5 million was spent to sustain and strengthen the publicity efforts of the campaign, with a focus on encouraging families to seek early assistance and promoting neighbourhood watch.

In 2009-10, the same provision will be earmarked to launch publicity and public education programmes on prevention of domestic violence. In the coming year, the focus will be on the prevention of suicide arising from the recent financial crisis and prevention of children left unattended. SWD will continue to make use of various media channels and transportation networks to publicise its messages. Territory-wide and district-based public education initiatives and activities will also be organised. Detailed programmes for 2009-10 are being planned. The above will be carried out by the existing staff of SWD and there is no breakdown on the manpower specifically allocated for this purpose.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department has enhanced the training for child care staff working in child care centres. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the training provided in the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09)? Has the Administration evaluated the effectiveness of the training or improve the training? Was there any variation in the expenditure involved in the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09)? Will there be any variation in the estimated expenditure for 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : To enhance the service quality of child care centres, a training subsidy scheme was set up in 2008-09 to sponsor the training of their child care staff. Operators of child care centres may receive course fee reimbursement up to \$15,000 per trainee per year for recognised courses.

Since 2008, about \$1 million has been granted in respect of courses enrolled in the 2007/08 academic year. Another \$5.8 million has been earmarked for courses enrolled in the 2008/09 academic year. For 2009-10, the expenditure is estimated to be not more than \$5.8 million.

A review of the training subsidy scheme will be conducted in 2011-12.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that the support to New Comers Ward will be strengthened. Please inform this Committee of the details, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : Additional resources will be allocated to strengthen the staff support of the New Comers Ward. Details have yet to be worked out with the concerned non-governmental organisation.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) “provided training for social workers and professionals on a wide range of topics on handling child abuse, spouse battering, elder abuse, suicide and sexual violence with special focus on risk assessment, prevention, as well as post-trauma care in violence cases.” Please inform this Committee of the number of social workers and professionals who received the above training in the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 to 2008-09), the expenditure involved and its changes, as well as the planned number of training places and the estimated expenditure in 2009-10.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : Over the past few years, SWD has provided a series of training programmes on handling of child abuse, spouse battering, elder abuse, suicide and sexual violence cases for social workers as well as other relevant front-line professionals including clinical psychologists, police officers and nurses. Between April 2007 and March 2009, a total amount of \$3.5 million was spent in providing training for about 12 200 social workers and professionals to enhance their knowledge and skills in handling different types of domestic violence and further promote multi-disciplinary collaboration.

In 2009-10, SWD will continue to provide training programmes for a total of about 6 000 - 7 000 social workers and relevant professionals with a budget of \$2 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is noticed from the targets that the number of family aide workers, family life education workers and family support networking teams will not be increased in 2009-10 in spite of the economic downturn. What are the reasons? Has the Administration under estimated the impact of the financial tsunami on local families?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : Family aide service aims at imparting to individuals/families in need basic skills in personal care, household management and providing care to other members of the family through systematic training programmes. Apart from engaging the service of family aide workers, social workers also refer needy individuals/families to other training programmes or draw on other community resources to meet their needs. Having assessed the service demand in the coming year, the Administration has no plan to increase the number of family aides.

Family life education is provided not only by family life education workers at the 22 standalone Family Life Education Units (FLEUs). Integrated Family Service Centres, Integrated Services Centres, Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres and school social work service also provide family life education programmes and related activities as part and parcel of their services. In fact, the majority of family life education programmes are provided by these mainstream service units which may vary the number of their programmes according to service needs. The Administration therefore has no plan to increase the number of standalone FLEUs.

Family Support Networking Teams (FSNTs) provide outreaching services to vulnerable families and refer needy cases to welfare service units for follow-up as appropriate. To facilitate the early identification of needy families, the Administration has already introduced the Family Support Programme in 2007. We have no plan to increase the number of FSNTs.

The Administration is aware of the fact that some members of the community may have emotional and family problems as a result of the economic downturn, and has taken prompt actions to enhance the support for them. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) allocated additional subsidy totalling \$2.17 million in 2008-09 to non-governmental organisations for setting up two 24-hour Financial Crisis Emotional Support Hotlines.

SWD will continue to monitor the situation and take appropriate measures to meet service demands where necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the places for occasional child care service as stated under the targets of this Programme, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of service users and the enrolment rate in the past two years (i.e. from 2007-08 to 2008-09), and the projected enrolment rate in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : In 2007-08, there were 220 occasional child care service units and the average enrolment rate was 70%. The corresponding figures for 2008-09 are 219 units and 62% (up to the end of 2008) respectively. We do not anticipate a significant change in the average enrolment rate in 2009-10.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the number of cases served under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme as mentioned in the indicators, the projected number of cases served in 2009-10 is the same as that in 2008-09. Despite an economic downturn as a result of the financial tsunami, it seems that the Administration has not made any adjustment to the number of cases served to prepare for a probable upsurge. Would the Administration please explain the reasons for that? Has the Administration underestimated the impact of economic downturn on household income and the living standard of the grass roots?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The estimation of the projected number of CSSA cases served was made on the basis of the up-to-date statistics available at the time of preparing the estimates. It so happens that the projected number of CSSA cases served in 2009-10 at 329 400 is the same as that of 2008-09. The 2008-09 Revised Estimate at \$19,081 million includes the provision of a one-off additional two months of standard rate payment to CSSA recipients estimated at \$2,078 million. The 2009-10 Estimate of \$18,304 million is, in fact, higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 7.7% if the above one-off provision is to be discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to cover increased payments which might arise from an upsurge in applications owing to worsening economic condition.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the number of cases served under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme as mentioned in the indicators, it is estimated that there will be an increase in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the reasons for the projected increase in the number of cases served? Is it due to the natural growth of the number of elderly persons? Has the Administration taken into consideration the impact of economic downturn on the livelihood of the elderly persons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The estimation of the projected number of SSA cases served was made on the basis of the up-to-date statistics available at the time of preparing the estimates. The increase in the number of SSA cases served generally reflects the upward trend of the Old Age Allowance (OAA) and Disability Allowance caseloads in recent years. The 2008-09 Revised Estimate at \$8,960 million includes the provision of a one-off additional two months of payment to all SSA recipients and a one-off grant of \$3,000 to OAA recipients which are estimated at \$974 million and \$1,400 million respectively. The 2009-10 Estimate of \$8,795 million is, in fact, higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 33.5%, if the above are to be discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to cover increased payments which might arise from an upsurge in applications owing to worsening economic condition.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Given that inflation, though slowing down, is still in a high level. Would the Administration please inform this Committee whether funds have been reserved for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and Social Security Allowance (SSA) payments to prepare for an inflation adjustment?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The CSSA standard payment rates and SSA rates are adjusted on an annual basis according to the movement of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices (SSAIP).

In the 2009-10 Estimate, the provision of \$18,304 million for CSSA is higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 7.7%, if the one-off two months' additional payment is discounted. The provision of \$8,795 million for SSA is higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 33.5%, if the above are discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to cover increased payments which might arise from inflation adjustment.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the block provision for the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, the estimated provision in 2009-10 is \$18.3 billion. Would the Administration please inform this Committee whether the provision has taken into account the probable upsurge in applications for CSSA as a result of an economic downturn arising from the financial tsunami?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The Estimate of \$18,304 million for CSSA in 2009-10 is higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 7.7%, if the one-off two months' additional payment is discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to cover increased payments which might arise from an upsurge in applications due to worsening economic condition.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department Subhead (No. & title) : 184

Traffic Accident
Victims Assistance
Scheme

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The provision for the Traffic Accident Victims Assistance (TAVA) Scheme is estimated to be \$73 million in 2009-10, representing a significant increase in expenditure when compared with that in the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09). Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the reasons for that?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The provision for the TAVA Scheme represents the contribution from the Government towards the TAVA Fund. It is estimated on the basis of 25% of the total amount of levies on vehicles and holders of driver licences registered in Hong Kong expected to be collected in the current financial year. The levies are used to assist needy victims of traffic accidents, as provided for under the Traffic Accident Victims (Assistance Fund) Ordinance (Cap. 229). Where necessary, the Government will also adjust the provision having regard to the actual amount of levies collected in the previous year.

The increase in provision for the TAVA Scheme in 2009-10 is mainly due to an estimated increase in the amount of levies to be collected in 2009-10.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the school social work cases served under the indicators, would the Administration please inform this Committee whether it will consider increasing resources in the coming year to tackle drug abuse problem of students at school given a number of such cases were reported recently?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : As each secondary school is already provided with subvented school social work service (SSWS) pursuant to the established policy of “one school social worker for each school” and the trend of the actual caseload from 2005-06 to 2007-08 has been steady, the Administration has no plan to increase resources for this service.

Pursuant to the Security Bureau’s policy initiative to tackle the drug abuse problems and to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has secured additional resources in 2008-09 to strengthen the services of counselling centres for psychotropic substance abusers (CCPSAs), drug treatment and rehabilitation centres, outreaching social work teams and the community support service scheme, etc., so as to facilitate early identification and timely engagement of young drug abusers. In 2009-10, SWD has earmarked additional resources to provide medical support for psychotropic substance abusers at CCPSAs on a recurrent basis and to launch a two-year pilot project to enhance probation service for drug offenders.

School social workers will collaborate with the above-mentioned services to help needy students. Separately, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has allocated \$750 million for the Education Bureau and SWD to implement the “Positive Adolescent Training through Holistic Social Programmes to Adulthood: A Jockey Club Youth Enhancement Scheme” for

secondary schools. The Scheme has been in operation since the 2005/06 school year, and aims at promoting a healthy life style for secondary school students, instilling in them positive values and enhancing their resilience and life skills. This will also help prevent drug abuse problems among students.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 that the Social Welfare Department will “set up a new integrated children and youth services centre (ICYSC) in Tseung Kwan O through pooling of existing resources”, would the Administration please inform this Committee whether “pooling of existing resources” implies that additional resources are not required, and whether this will result in a reduction in the manpower and resources in other areas?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The new ICYSC in Tseung Kwan O will be formed by pooling surplus resources for youth services on a cost-neutral basis as agreed with the non-governmental organisation that operates the services. This will not lead to a reduction in existing manpower and resources.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will “continue to monitor the performance of the enhanced services of the community support service scheme (CSSS) and outreaching social work teams (OSWTs)”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the above service monitoring work as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : SWD monitors the performance of the CSSS and OSWTs through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, service performance is assessed according to the Funding and Service Agreements and a set of Service Quality Standards drawn up between SWD and non-governmental organisations operating the subvented services. There is no breakdown of the expenses and manpower provision specifically allocated to the monitoring of the CSSS and OSWTs under the SPMS.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has “strengthened the manpower and training of the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (LORCHE) and the Contract Management Section (CMS)”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the training programmes conducted and the number of additional staff provided in the past year (i.e. 2008-09)? Has the Administration evaluated the effectiveness of these training programmes? What were the expenditure and manpower involved in the above work in the past year (i.e. 2008-09)? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : In 2008-09, five additional Registered Nurse (RN) posts were created in LORCHE to enhance the inspection and monitoring of the health care services provided in residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs). As for CMS, an RN post was created in 2008-09 and another two posts of the Social Work Officer grade will be created in 2009-10 to enhance the tendering and monitoring of contract services for the elderly.

Training for LORCHE and CMS staff is mainly provided by the Staff Development and Training Section of SWD, headed by a Chief Social Work Officer. In 2008-09, a series of training courses was organised to enhance the skills and knowledge of LORCHE and CMS staff, which included topics on contract management, elder abuse, first aid, drug management in RCHEs, management of nutritional problems of elders, dementia care, least restraint policy, complaint management, etc. Staff feedback on the training programmes was collected. They found the training courses very useful and considered that the courses could enhance their competency in discharging their duties. These training programmes are organised for LORCHE and CMS

staff on a regular basis. The actual expenditure in 2008-09 was \$148,240 and the estimated expenditure in 2009-10 is \$154,700.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) “offered further training courses for professional and non-professional staff serving demented elders”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the relevant training as well as the expenditure and manpower involved over the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 to 2008-09), and the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : Training programmes for professional staff and non-professional staff providing services to demented elders mainly aim at enriching the knowledge of the staff about the medical, psychological and care needs of demented elders, as well as the legal issues involved in taking care of/dealing with demented elders. The expenditure for the training courses organised in 2007-08 and 2008-09 was \$119,000 per annum. The estimated expenditure for 2009-10 is \$130,000. The training courses are coordinated by two social work officers in SWD and assisted by two clerical staff.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) “offered further training courses for care staff serving persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the integrated home care services (IHCS) teams”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of the above training provided for care staff as well as the expenditure and manpower involved over the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 to 2008-09)? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : Training programmes for care staff of IHCS teams serving PWDs mainly cover knowledge on physical and nursing care for the disabled persons, the psychological needs of PWDs as well as communication and stress management skills. The total expenditure of the training courses in 2007-08 and 2008-09 were \$30,000 and \$32,000 respectively. In 2009-10, \$35,000 has been earmarked for this purpose. The training courses are primarily coordinated by two social workers and assisted by two clerical staff of SWD.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has “provided additional enhanced home and community care services (EHCCS) places”. Would the Administration please provide details of the increased service capacity? What were the expenditure and manpower involved in the provision of EHCCS in the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09)? What are the projected expenditure and manpower in 2009-10? Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the EHCCS in the past? If yes, what are the results? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : Six new EHCCS teams were set up to provide an additional service capacity of 810 cases for frail elders on 1 December 2008.

The total expenditure for the provision of EHCCS in 2007-08 was about \$77.3 million. It is estimated that the expenditure for 2008-09 will be \$88.5 million. With the additional service capacity coming into full implementation, the estimated expenditure will be further increased to \$138.1 million in 2009-10.

There is no strict staff requirement for the EHCCS teams. Operators are allowed to flexibly utilise the contract sum to deploy staff and form strategic alliance with professional bodies to meet the needs of individual service users.

A consultancy study on the effectiveness of EHCCS was conducted in 2003 by an international consultancy firm. Both service users and their carers were highly satisfied with the services and considered the services very effective.

Besides, there are ongoing annual surveys to collect feedback from the service users and their carers. So far, the results have been very satisfactory.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has “strengthened the manpower of district elderly community centres (DECCs) and neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs).” Would the Administration please provide the details? What were the expenditure and manpower involved in this respect in the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09)? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : In 2007-08, an additional recurrent funding of \$41.8 million was earmarked for the 41 DECCs and 115 NECs to each recruit one additional social worker to strengthen their outreach services to hidden and vulnerable elders. A total of 156 additional social workers were employed under this additional provision.

In 2008-09, another additional recurrent funding of \$18 million was allocated to the 41 DECCs to enable each of them to recruit an additional social worker to strengthen their services including counselling and referral services, and the processing of applications for subsidised long-term care services for the elderly. In this regard, a total of 41 additional social workers were employed.

The estimated expenditure of the above provisions in 2009-10 is \$63.4 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department “provided a wide range of training programmes for social security staff”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of social security staff receiving the above training, the expenditure incurred and its changes over the past two years (i.e. from 2007-08 to 2008-09) as well as the expected figures in 2009-10? What is the number of substantiated complaints lodged against the Social Security Branch in the past two years (i.e. 2007 to 2008)? Has the content of the training been adjusted in response to the nature of complaints?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The training expenditure and the number of training places for social security staff in 2007-08 and 2008-09 together with the estimated and planned number of training places for social security staff for 2009-10 are listed as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Number of Training Places
2007-08	0.40	1 650
2008-09	0.45	1 800
2009-10	0.50	1 800

In 2007 and 2008, we handled 108 and 87 complaints against the social security service units respectively. Of these, seven cases in 2007 and three cases in 2008 were substantiated.

In view of the service changes and feedback received from various channels, we have been improving our training programmes for social security staff to enhance their knowledge and skills in investigation and verification, as well as communication and customer service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please provide the median duration of stay on CSSA and the expenditure involved by nature of cases for the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 to 2008-09)?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The median duration of stay on CSSA in years and CSSA expenditure by nature of cases for 2007-08 to 2008-09 are as follows:

Table 1: The median duration of stay on CSSA in years and CSSA expenditure by nature of cases for 2007-08

Nature of case	2007-08	
	Median duration of stay on CSSA in years*	CSSA Expenditure (\$ million)#
Old Age	7.3	8,764
Permanent Disability	7.4	1,043
Ill Health	5.3	1,650
Single Parent	5.3	3,131
Low Earnings	5.1	1,288
Unemployment	4.4	1,836
Others	2.7	334
Overall	6.1	18,045

Notes: Individual figures may not add up to respective total due to rounding.

* As at end-March 2008.

CSSA expenditure includes one additional month of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

Table 2: The median duration of stay on CSSA in years and CSSA expenditure by nature of cases for 2008-09

Nature of case	2008-09	
	Median duration of stay on CSSA in years*	CSSA Expenditure (\$ million)#
Old Age	7.6	9,533
Permanent Disability	7.8	1,162
Ill Health	5.7	1,788
Single Parent	5.6	3,153
Low Earnings	5.8	1,186
Unemployment	4.4	1,892
Others	2.7	367
Overall	6.5	19,081

Notes: * As at end-January 2009.

CSSA expenditure(Revised Estimate) includes two additional months of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) continued to run the trial employment assistance projects for the employable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients including “District Employment Assistance Trial (DEAT) Projects”, “Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP)” and “Enhanced New Dawn (ND) Project”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the implementation details and progress of the above projects in 2008-09, the number of CSSA recipients who have joined the projects and of those who have left the CSSA net with the help from the projects? What is the anticipated impact of economic downturn on the projects in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : In 2008-09, SWD has continued to run the trial employment assistance projects for CSSA able-bodied unemployed recipients as follows:

- (a) The DEAT Projects were in operation from October 2006 to September 2008. There were 379 participants. Of these, 183 have secured full-time paid employment. 37 participants have left the CSSA net as a result of taking up paid employment.
- (b) My STEP was launched from October 2007 for two years to September 2009. Up to end-January 2009, there were 588 participants. Of these, 244 have secured full-time paid employment. 37 participants have left the CSSA net as a result of taking up paid employment.
- (c) The Enhanced ND Project was launched for 30 months from October 2007 to March 2010. Up to end-January 2009, there were 5 994 participants. Of these, 1 381 have secured paid employment with at least 32 working hours a month. 106 participants have left the CSSA net as a result of taking up paid employment.

In 2009-10, we will continue to motivate and assist able-bodied CSSA recipients to rejoin the labour force and become self-reliant through the employment assistance projects. Meanwhile, SWD has commissioned non-governmental organisations to operate 60 employment assistance projects throughout the territory under Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme to provide employment assistance services for all able-bodied unemployed CSSA recipients so as to assist them to secure full-time paid employment and move towards self-reliance. Participants who are assessed as having greater barriers to work and lacking work experience or job skills are also provided with intensive employment assistance services to enhance their employability.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Brief Description that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) “took forward the recommendation of replacing the Computerised Social Security System (CSSS)”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the latest progress of the replacement programme, and whether the expenditure incurred will decrease as a result of economic downturn?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : On 16 January 2009, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved an allocation of \$386.1 million for the replacement of the CSSS. SWD is making arrangements to set up the work team for the project. Tendering will be conducted in latter part of the year for the selection of suitable contractor(s).

As the development of the new CSSS will be outsourced through open tender in accordance with the Stores and Procurement Regulations of the Government, tender proposals on provision for goods and services will be considered on a competitive basis and prices should reflect the prevailing market prices at the tendering time. Nevertheless, price proposals and technical proposals submitted by tenderers will be considered independently in order to get the optimal mix of the proposed solutions.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)139

Question Serial No.

1492

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please provide, by case nature and in total, the number of households living in each public housing estate?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The number of households on CSSA by nature of cases in each public housing estate are listed as below-

Housing Estate	Old Age	Permanent Disability	Ill Health	Single Parent	Low Earning	Unemploy-ment	Others	Total
Ap Lei Chau	262	53	55	107	47	24	12	560
Bo Shek Mansion	61	1	-	3	1	-	-	66
Broadview Garden	12	2	2	8	3	3	1	31
Butterfly	708	49	122	238	25	111	24	1 277
Chak On	347	12	41	61	16	38	4	519
Cheung Ching	310	29	47	87	59	74	15	621
Cheung Fat	255	26	41	60	18	46	4	450
Cheung Hang	353	34	45	72	28	63	9	604
Cheung Hong	875	81	97	179	49	130	21	1 432
Cheung Kwai	23	3	6	9	11	7	1	60
Cheung On	283	40	48	46	20	65	8	510
Cheung Shan	96	12	15	23	14	10	1	171
Cheung Wah	434	25	79	125	52	55	17	787
Cheung Wang	304	61	97	214	136	201	24	1 037
Ching Ho	314	34	127	334	113	148	40	1 110
Cho Yiu Chuen	184	8	10	13	19	16	5	255
Choi Fai	88	7	22	23	15	26	4	185
Choi Ha	179	16	19	15	16	23	1	269
Choi Hung	843	67	116	219	84	103	15	1 447
Choi Ming Court	228	57	99	131	101	96	5	717
Choi Wan (I)	388	63	96	128	64	84	12	835
Choi Wan (II)	203	17	48	83	36	39	7	433

Choi Ying	393	19	48	194	49	92	12	807
Choi Yuen	795	39	102	184	36	82	24	1 262
Chuk Yuen (North)	354	34	84	63	31	66	10	642
Chuk Yuen (South)	885	72	114	250	69	102	14	1 506
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	92	5	7	9	5	14	2	134
Chun Shek	269	10	55	56	21	23	5	439
Chung On	295	40	93	105	50	98	11	692
Clague Garden	67	-	1	3	5	6	2	84
Easeful Court	12	4	7	12	19	16	4	74
Fortune	583	33	64	45	31	51	6	813
Fu Cheong	1 449	66	141	226	172	170	9	2 233
Fu Heng	441	41	116	104	51	87	9	849
Fu Shan	176	18	27	26	30	24	3	304
Fu Shin	418	37	69	174	27	70	17	812
Fu Tai	385	95	100	182	146	201	12	1 121
Fu Tung	77	17	19	56	18	17	3	207
Fuk Loi	344	20	32	74	22	36	9	537
Fung Tak	506	30	83	54	26	48	10	757
Fung Wah	85	11	16	14	6	10	1	143
Grandeur Terrace	109	24	114	363	174	212	10	1 006
Hau Tak	350	43	81	123	53	62	6	718
Healthy Village	94	5	8	11	9	6	-	133
Heng On	258	22	43	63	23	29	10	448
High Prosperity Terrace	10	4	8	19	24	14	4	83
Hin Keng	208	37	41	53	27	26	15	407
Hin Yiu	82	13	28	53	13	11	4	204
Hing Man	124	27	21	50	32	21	5	280
Hing Tin	76	18	16	35	24	11	4	184
Hing Tung	192	15	30	52	18	26	2	335
Hing Wah (I)	283	52	49	56	47	33	7	527
Hing Wah (II)	525	52	51	106	29	40	12	815
Ho Man Tin	665	46	121	111	85	80	10	1 118
Hoi Fu Court	580	27	64	102	95	91	8	967
Hoi Lai	256	40	76	204	182	149	15	922
Hong Tung	214	2	5	4	1	5	-	231
Hung Hom	211	11	30	16	14	17	1	300
Jat Min Chuen	330	26	32	33	25	28	3	477
Ka Fuk	247	20	41	58	34	51	10	461
Ka Wai Chuen	208	8	28	18	10	27	1	300
Kai Tin	330	31	42	51	30	45	2	531
Kai Yip	793	51	66	124	29	61	11	1 135
Kam Peng	24	2	5	5	5	7	-	48
Kin Ming	306	84	241	428	204	225	18	1 506
Kin Sang	90	12	33	37	17	23	8	220

King Lam	442	68	86	95	24	66	2	783
Ko Cheung Court	44	12	26	124	53	55	9	323
Ko Yee	211	16	13	27	11	16	3	297
Kwai Chung	1 026	194	277	670	305	489	69	3 030
Kwai Fong	660	95	105	125	113	125	10	1 233
Kwai Hing	91	11	10	24	7	13	4	160
Kwai Shing (East)	716	88	113	165	117	173	17	1 389
Kwai Shing (West)	465	46	57	113	62	90	10	843
Kwong Fuk	496	53	108	201	76	81	21	1 036
Kwong Tin	156	21	35	50	27	41	6	336
Kwong Yuen	382	57	85	88	27	65	13	717
Kwun Lung House	90	5	7	7	7	6	1	123
Kwun Tong Garden	494	33	62	62	48	72	10	781
Lai King	415	44	56	91	57	72	17	752
Lai Kok	469	45	53	114	25	59	8	773
Lai On	211	19	23	22	10	19	2	306
Lai Tak Chuen	125	14	20	16	16	16	3	210
Lai Yiu	280	21	33	50	40	60	4	488
Lakeside Garden	13	2	5	3	2	-	-	25
Lee On	272	52	116	115	45	85	12	697
Lei Cheng Uk	361	39	45	74	43	82	11	655
Lei Muk Shue	728	104	152	364	165	261	51	1 825
Lei Tung	451	61	52	102	36	47	19	768
Lei Yue Mun	400	39	64	132	84	114	17	850
Lek Yuen	358	41	46	101	29	43	9	627
Leung King	512	40	108	123	41	118	20	962
Lok Fu	388	54	79	96	43	72	7	739
Lok Man Sun Chuen	282	16	44	39	25	49	5	460
Lok Wah (North)	132	22	40	56	31	44	7	332
Lok Wah (South)	1 446	47	101	198	39	111	11	1 953
Long Bin Interim Housing	33	7	11	7	3	66	3	130
Long Ping	521	59	119	348	90	171	23	1 331
Lung Hang	290	33	84	106	85	68	11	677
Lung Tin	68	12	4	9	2	11	-	106
Ma Hang	47	10	12	22	11	6	2	110
Ma Tau Wai	215	15	35	105	16	35	2	423
Mei Lam	431	44	71	136	32	65	15	794
Mei Tin	233	51	133	340	120	205	34	1 116
Mei Tung	105	8	12	18	3	19	3	168
Ming Tak	180	16	17	46	17	28	5	309
Ming Wa Dai Ha	162	12	21	12	10	18	1	236
Model Housing	47	5	12	14	17	5	2	102
Moon Lok Dai Ha	89	3	14	7	4	7	1	125
Nam Cheong	165	15	26	47	15	30	1	299

Nam Shan	327	18	62	110	31	39	9	596
Nga Ning Court	11	1	3	13	10	11	1	50
Ngan Wan	27	3	6	8	5	6	-	55
Ngau Tau Kok Lower (II)	745	48	70	47	28	91	5	1 034
Ngau Tau Kok Upper	374	23	56	29	27	39	3	551
Oi Man	355	53	111	205	74	86	10	894
Oi Tung	763	61	74	127	45	50	7	1 127
On Tin	23	9	9	50	43	35	4	173
On Ting	595	75	95	143	36	142	18	1 104
On Yam	508	51	64	72	62	91	17	865
Pak Tin	1 453	53	201	275	161	200	21	2 364
Ping Shek	362	39	48	98	36	65	7	655
Ping Tin	938	84	103	146	79	134	19	1 503
Po Lam	297	50	66	139	44	38	13	647
Po Tat	1 056	62	153	313	256	245	20	2 105
Po Tin	652	107	241	118	12	292	22	1 444
Po Tin Interim Housing	119	33	71	22	6	160	5	416
Pok Hong	277	22	80	77	48	37	13	554
Prosperous Garden	101	-	4	1	3	2	-	111
Sai Wan	25	1	10	5	8	4	1	54
Sam Shing	134	17	16	58	10	26	7	268
Sau Mau Ping	2 040	146	265	391	312	310	39	3 503
Sha Kok	902	79	102	180	32	93	15	1 403
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	38	5	11	5	7	8	2	76
Shan King	746	66	132	261	64	151	26	1 446
Shek Kip Mei	921	48	132	181	87	117	19	1 505
Shek Lei (I)	672	87	81	169	73	101	17	1 200
Shek Lei (II)	874	103	154	268	206	300	45	1 950
Shek Pai Wan	458	55	53	68	87	49	13	783
Shek Wai Kok	575	43	83	178	49	96	16	1 040
Shek Yam	397	40	41	74	84	92	9	737
Shek Yam (East)	361	45	31	39	29	47	4	556
Sheung Lok	160	9	-	4	-	4	1	178
Sheung Tak	494	63	145	196	164	153	13	1 228
Shui Pin Wai	506	19	51	92	27	51	7	753
Shun Lee	441	37	55	113	51	74	8	779
Shun On	398	36	47	72	35	55	3	646
Shun Tin	786	50	130	155	71	122	13	1 327
Siu Sai Wan	315	68	61	131	62	64	11	712
So Uk	129	17	26	27	19	37	-	255
Sun Chui	598	67	116	197	44	82	15	1 119
Sun Tin Wai	254	31	54	93	34	42	11	519
Tai Hang Tung	440	20	60	48	18	32	3	621
Tai Hing	1 058	77	200	272	57	234	32	1 930

Tai Ping	29	5	14	31	8	25	2	114
Tai Wo	562	41	109	106	40	57	12	927
Tai Wo Hau	773	90	103	193	75	133	32	1 399
Tai Yuen	348	33	117	123	67	99	11	798
Tak Tin	775	39	76	81	40	78	9	1 098
Tin Chak	408	41	139	254	105	178	7	1 132
Tin Ching	222	28	67	217	42	118	26	720
Tin Heng	211	43	151	461	306	325	29	1 526
Tin King	107	14	35	88	19	34	10	307
Tin Ping	181	32	55	102	34	52	8	464
Tin Shui	517	72	120	317	95	173	33	1 327
Tin Tsz	503	54	72	97	38	103	18	885
Tin Wah	494	48	113	160	107	123	20	1 065
Tin Wan	431	50	78	51	38	40	12	700
Tin Yan	546	56	190	374	71	259	23	1 519
Tin Yat	124	24	74	247	141	191	19	820
Tin Yiu	575	63	193	338	102	198	39	1 508
Tin Yuet	441	42	139	240	143	208	19	1 232
Tsing Yi	162	15	38	28	17	38	4	302
Tsui Lam	152	18	41	117	42	35	7	412
Tsui Lok	122	6	3	9	3	4	2	149
Tsui Ping (North)	1 108	79	164	228	93	145	25	1 842
Tsui Ping (South)	560	32	49	56	38	61	8	804
Tsui Wan	136	18	15	30	7	17	8	231
Tsz Ching	1 381	74	162	236	219	180	14	2 266
Tsz Hong	104	15	37	137	133	72	7	505
Tsz Lok	855	51	108	189	104	112	13	1 432
Tsz Man	209	18	37	53	32	36	6	391
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	8	2	8	3	5	3	1	30
Tung Tau	1 093	89	101	140	64	127	8	1 622
Un Chau	952	66	73	95	64	94	6	1 350
Verbena Heights	135	7	25	14	5	24	1	211
Wah Fu	586	95	105	205	124	52	15	1 182
Wah Kwai	343	38	33	36	18	15	3	486
Wah Lai	93	16	38	44	56	59	4	310
Wah Ming	422	29	101	136	52	84	18	842
Wah Sum	145	19	50	61	31	44	5	355
Wan Hon	509	5	7	12	11	10	5	559
Wan Tau Tong	195	24	45	35	8	25	3	335
Wan Tsui	328	41	46	110	47	46	12	630
Wang Tau Hom	419	73	83	145	80	99	23	922
Wo Che	406	64	123	140	101	101	24	959
Wo Lok	244	32	23	68	21	32	2	422
Wong Tai Sin Lower (I)	529	62	80	152	56	93	15	987

Wong Tai Sin Lower (II)	479	66	97	177	62	97	12	990
Wong Tai Sin Upper	743	78	66	111	75	100	10	1 183
Wu King	152	17	79	123	47	88	15	521
Yat Tung	402	131	251	588	373	489	48	2 282
Yau Lai	196	17	57	203	108	99	20	700
Yau Oi	673	103	136	278	111	238	23	1 562
Yau Tong	524	51	80	133	111	104	13	1 016
Yiu On	200	33	58	80	23	29	9	432
Yiu Tung	515	61	81	99	61	69	20	906
Yue Kwong Chuen	57	6	7	8	3	6	2	89
Yue Wan	211	32	31	82	23	32	4	415
Yung Shing Court	233	22	64	82	64	76	3	544
Total	81 176	8 010	14 296	24 041	11 577	16 689	2 311	158 100

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)140

Question Serial No.

1493

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Administration please provide the respective number of CSSA cases by nature of cases and the total number of CSSA cases in each District Council Constituency at present?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The number of CSSA cases by nature of cases and by geographical districts as at end-January 2009 are as follows:

Geographical district *	Case nature							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central and Western	2 373	244	281	255	142	355	51	3 701
Eastern	8 498	1 116	1 020	1 579	700	979	337	14 229
Islands	1 672	270	412	904	558	806	209	4 831
Kowloon City	8 364	682	1 156	1 485	489	1 349	269	13 794
Kwai Tsing	14 517	2 131	2 100	3 371	1 995	3 191	544	27 849
Kwun Tong	19 913	1 655	2 423	4 201	2 244	3 242	594	34 272
North	7 212	735	1 364	2 190	699	1 349	462	14 011
Sai Kung	4 053	874	1 089	1 578	870	950	280	9 694
Sha Tin	9 023	1 381	1 786	2 530	982	1 576	386	17 664
Sham Shui Po	14 117	1 090	2 291	2 814	1 377	3 789	497	25 975
Southern	5 517	1 145	655	738	454	380	193	9 082
Tai Po	5 831	447	934	1 258	389	757	232	9 848

Tsuen Wan	4 951	414	560	1 142	363	882	244	8 556
Tuen Mun	10 553	2 215	2 375	2 781	756	2 808	507	21 995
Wan Chai	1 489	94	179	141	63	337	110	2 413
Wong Tai Sin	13 013	1 236	1 775	2 816	1 516	2 051	371	22 778
Yau Tsim Mong	5 587	420	1 074	1 199	446	2 747	336	11 809
Yuen Long	12 255	1 672	2 909	5 188	1 862	4 200	729	28 815
Total	148 938	17 821	24 383	36 170	15 905	31 748	6 351	281 316

Notes: * The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the provision allocated over the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09) to Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres (ICYSCs) under the targets of this Programme and the provision to be allocated to these centres in the coming year? What are the criteria for allocating provision to these centres? Has the Administration evaluated the service effectiveness of these centres?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The total recurrent provisions for ICYSC in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

Year	Amount (\$ million)
2007-08 Actual Expenditure	745.60
2008-09 Revised Estimate	804.70
2009-10 Estimate	812.20

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) monitors the performance of ICYSCs through the Service Performance Monitoring System (SPMS). Under the SPMS, service performance is assessed according to the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs) and a generic set of Service Quality Standards drawn up between SWD and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) operating the subvented services. The allocation of the recurrent subventions to the operating NGOs is subject to their compliance with the FSA requirements. In general, the ICYSCs can comply with the requirements of FSAs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In face of a probable upsurge in service demand due to economic downturn, would the Administration please inform this Committee whether additional resources will be provided to Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres (ICYSCs) under the targets of this Programme in 2009-10? If no, does that mean the Administration has not taken into account the impact of financial tsunami on young people?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : According to the current planning standard, one ICYSC will serve a population of 12 000 young people aged from six to 24. The current provision of 136 ICYSCs fully meets service demand.

The ICYSCs provide a comprehensive range of services including guidance and counselling services, supportive services for young people in disadvantaged circumstances, socialisation programmes and programmes for the development of social responsibility and competence. All these seek to help young people cope with the difficulties they encounter during their developmental process, including those arising from the recent financial crisis.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that the provision of short-term food assistance for individuals and families in need will be strengthened. Would the Administration please inform this Committee when it will review the operation of the scheme; what are the estimated expenditure and manpower required for the scheme in the coming year; and whether it will increase the provision for the scheme if the financial crisis intensifies?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned five non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate five short-term food assistance service projects throughout the territory starting from February 2009 to help individuals and families in need. Out of the \$100 million for this service, \$60 million will be allocated to meet the operational expenses of the service projects (i.e. \$12 million for each project), including food cost, personal emoluments for staff and other related administrative expenses. Each service project will benefit at least 10 000 persons. Furthermore, if required by individual operating NGOs, a maximum of \$2.5 million for each project will be provided as a one-off setting-up provision. The operational expenses to be allocated to individual NGOs in 2009-10 is subject to the actual service demand and is difficult to forecast at the present stage.

SWD will closely monitor the performance of the operating NGOs, the operation of the service projects and the service needs. In fact, out of the \$100 million, \$27.5 million will be reserved for meeting future service demand, which cannot be estimated at the present stage.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision that there will be a net increase of 14 posts in 2009-10 under Programme (1). What are their distribution and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : In 2009-10, about \$7.8 million will be earmarked for providing an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists to the Family and Child Protective Services Units and the Clinical Psychology Units of the Social Welfare Department respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the batterer intervention programme.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The cost per place per month of foster care service will be increased in 2009-10. Please inform this Committee of the reasons for such an increase and whether factors such as persistently high inflation have been taken into account in the adjustment.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The increase in the cost per place per month of foster care service in 2009-10 is mainly due to the increase in foster care allowance and price adjustment for other cost components of the service. The effect of inflation has been taken into account.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the targets that the number of family and child protection workers will increase to 168 in 2009-10. What are the reasons for the increase and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : In 2009-10, additional recurrent funding of about \$6.4 million will be earmarked for providing an additional 12 social workers to the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of the Social Welfare Department to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the batterer intervention programme. The additional manpower also helps alleviate the workload of social workers in FCPSUs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration projects that the number of family and child protection supervision cases will increase to 10 797 in 2009-10. What are the reasons for the projected increase in caseload? Will additional manpower be provided to cope with the projected increase in caseload?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The projected number of supervision cases in 2009-10 is derived from the revised estimate of supervision cases served by Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) in 2008-09 (based on the average growth rate of new cases). In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers will be allocated to FCPSUs to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence, and further develop the batterer intervention programme. The additional manpower also helps alleviate the workload of social workers in FCPSUs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the indicators, the Administration projects that there will be a marked increase in the number of cases served by Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in 2009-10. What is the implication on the estimated average number of cases handled by each social worker? What are the reasons for the increase in caseload? Will additional manpower be provided?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The estimated number of cases to be served by IFSCs in 2009-10 (87 711) as stated in the indicators is broadly the same as that in 2008-09 (87 318), with a slight increase of 393 cases or 0.45%. Accordingly, the estimated average number of cases handled by each of the 1 010 social workers at the 61 IFSCs should remain largely the same.

Since 2005-06, additional resources have been allocated to strengthen the manpower of IFSCs. As always, the Social Welfare Department will closely monitor the service needs and explore new resources to further strengthen the manpower where necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that an evaluation on the operation of the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre (the Centre) will be conducted. Please provide the details of and the schedule for the evaluation as well as the expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : The Centre, funded by the Lotteries Fund on a three-year pilot basis from January 2007 to December 2009, provides timely, professional and specialised services to victims of sexual violence and domestic violence as well as their family members. Through close collaboration with related professionals and service units, the operation of the Centre has been smooth since its inception in January 2007. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has received positive feedback on the effectiveness of service provision from service users and frontline professionals concerned and will therefore continue to fund the Centre after December 2009. A review will be conducted upon the completion of the pilot project by end 2009 to, among other things, identify possible improvements.

Resources required for conducting the review will be absorbed within the existing provisions of SWD.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in paragraph 120 of the Budget Speech that the Administration will provide an additional recurrent funding of \$25 million and further strengthen direct service and support for victims of domestic violence and families in need. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the details of the relevant measures? How do these measures differ from those in the past and how would the Administration evaluate their effectiveness? What are the resources required in implementing these measures?
- (b) what is the expenditure involved in providing the above-mentioned service and support in 2008-09 and 2009-10?
- (c) what are the policy objectives on domestic violence? Does the Administration have a comprehensive plan to support families in need?
- (d) does the Administration have any plan to enhance support for male victims of domestic violence and those in homosexual cohabitation relationships, and to provide relevant training for frontline social workers?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply : (a) In 2009-10, an additional recurrent funding of \$24.5 million will be provided to further strengthen direct support to victims of domestic violence and families in need, including strengthening the manpower of the Social Welfare Department (SWD), further developing the batterer intervention programme (BIP), and enhancing support for various refuge and crisis centres. The estimated breakdown of the allocation are as follows:

- (i) about \$7.8 million will be earmarked for providing an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists to SWD's Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) and the Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs) respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence, and further develop the BIP; and
- (ii) about \$16.7 million will be earmarked for funding the continuous operation of the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre following completion of the pilot period, and strengthening the manpower of the Family Crisis Support Centre, the Suicide Crisis Intervention Centre, the four Refuge Centres for Women, and the Po Leung Kuk New Comers Ward to provide timely support to victims of domestic violence and vulnerable families, children in need and survivors of suicide.

(b) Breakdown of provisions for the above services under the 2008-09 Revised Estimate are as follows:

Service	2008-09 Revised Estimate (\$ million)
(i) Operation of FCPSUs and CPUs	226.9
(ii) Support for various refuge and crisis centres	41.8 ^{Note}

Note: Exclude the funding of the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre by the Lotteries Fund in 2008-09.

Additional funding provided for the respective services in 2009-10 has been provided in (a) above.

(c) The Administration is committed to preventing and tackling domestic violence. SWD has all along been providing a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through the Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, FCPSUs, CPUs, Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc. In 2009-10, the total estimated provision for these services is \$1,785.3 million, including the additional recurrent funding of \$24.5 million to further strengthen direct support to victims of domestic violence and families in need.

- (d) Except the Refuge Centres for Women which are exclusively for women, all support services for victims of domestic violence are provided to all persons in need, irrespective of their gender or sexual orientation. SWD will continue to provide training programmes for social workers regarding handling of domestic violence cases involving different types of victims.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department Subhead (No. & title) :
000 - Operational Expenses

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) plans to create 88 new posts in 2009-10. In this connection, would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) what is the expenditure involved in creating these posts?
- (b) are they permanent posts? If yes, what types of posts will be created?
- (c) what are the post titles and job details of these posts?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : The estimated annual expenditure involved in the net increase of 88 posts in SWD is \$36.5 million. These are civil service posts and 21 of them are of a time-limited basis. Details of the 88 posts are as follows:

Programme	Net increase in number and type(s) of posts	Purpose
(1) Family and Child Welfare	14 posts in the Social Work Officer and Clinical Psychologist grades	To enhance frontline support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the batterer intervention programme.
(2) Social Security	58 posts in the Social Security Officer, Social Security Assistant, Statistician, Statistical Officer, Census and Survey Officer, Analyst/Programmer, Official Languages Officer and Clerical Officer grades	(i) To support the implementation of the employment assistance projects for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients; (ii) to support the replacement of the Computerised Social Security System; and

Programme	Net increase in number and type(s) of posts	Purpose
		(iii) to conduct a Household Expenditure Survey on CSSA households.
(3) Services for Elders	Two posts in the Social Work Officer grade	To assist in the tendering and monitoring of contract services for the elderly, including contract residential care homes and community care services.
(4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services	Ten posts in the Social Work Officer grade	To enhance the medical social services for the rehabilitation of persons with mental health and oncology problems.
(5) Services for Offenders	Four posts in the Social Work Officer grade	To enhance the probation service for convicted young drug offenders on a pilot basis.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) subvention system as mentioned in the “Detail” section of the Controlling Officer’s Report, would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) how many complaints about this subvention system were received by the Administration in 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively? What kinds of complaints were they in general? How much resources and manpower were involved in handling such complaints every year?
- (b) what follow-up actions will be taken by the Administration in respect of complaints about staff remuneration of subvented organisations?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

- Reply :
- (a) 9, 15 and 7 complaints allegedly about the LSG subvention system were received by the Administration in 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (up to 28 February 2009) respectively. They were mainly about the use of subventions by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and staff remuneration in NGOs. As these complaints were handled by staff of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) who were responsible for liaison with the NGOs concerned, SWD does not have the breakdown of the resources and manpower involved in handling the complaints.
 - (b) Under the LSG subvention system, SWD will not impose input controls on the subvented NGOs’ staffing structures and levels of pay, etc. SWD’s investigation will focus on whether the complaint involves non-compliance with subvention rules.

SWD will ask the NGO to rectify if there is any non-compliance. If the organisation fails to do so, SWD may withhold or terminate the LSG. For any complaint which concerns employment, SWD will refer the complaint to relevant authorities if it involves violation of relevant legislation.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding Disability Allowance (DA), would the Administration please provide the following information:

- (a) the number of DA recipients in various districts of the New Territories East and the annual expenditure involved during the past three years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2008-09);
- (b) the estimated number of DA recipients in the districts of the New Territories East and the estimated expenditure involved in 2009-10; and
- (c) the number of DA recipients living in public housing estates of the New Territories East and the expenditure involved in 2008?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : (a) The numbers of DA recipients in various districts of the New Territories East during the past three years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2008-09) are as below:

District#	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
North	4 268	4 465	4 636
Tai Po	4 735	5 010	5 230
Sha Tin	10 088	10 588	11 096
Sai Kung	4 212	4 606	4 878

The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

We do not keep separate records of the annual expenditure on a district basis.

- (b) We do not have separate estimates on the number of recipients on DA and the expenditure involved in 2009-10 on a district basis.

- (c) As at end-February 2009, there were 11 020 DA recipients who were living in public housing estates of the New Territories East. We do not keep separate records of the expenditure involved for these recipients.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding Old Age Allowance (OAA), would the Administration please inform this Committee of :

- (a) the numbers of recipients of Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) and Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) respectively in various districts of the New Territories East (including Sai Kung, Sha Tin, Tai Po and North District), and the expenditure involved during the past three years (i.e. from 2006 to 2008);
- (b) the estimated numbers of recipients of NOAA and HOAA respectively in various districts of the New Territories East and the estimated expenditure involved in 2009-10;
- (c) the numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents who are aged 65 to 69 or aged 70 or above in various districts of the New Territories East in 2008; and
- (d) the numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents in public housing estates of the New Territories East, and the numbers of persons and households receiving OAA in public housing estates in 2008-09.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : (a) The numbers of recipients of NOAA and HOAA in the districts of the New Territories East during the past three years (i.e. from 2006 to 2008) are as below:

District#	Number of NOAA recipients in the New Territories East		
	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
North	2 500	2 278	2 254
Tai Po	2 379	2 295	2 259
Sha Tin	6 656	6 171	6 211
Sai Kung	3 211	3 159	3 182

District#	Number of HOAA recipients in the New Territories East		
	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
North	11 651	12 138	12 648
Tai Po	11 578	11 949	12 375
Sha Tin	28 535	30 015	31 327
Sai Kung	9 746	10 913	11 886

The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

We do not keep separate records of the expenditure on a district basis.

- (b) We do not have separate estimates on the numbers of NOAA and HOAA recipients in 2009-10 on a district basis.
- (c) The numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents who are aged 65 to 69 or aged 70 or above in the districts of the New Territories East in 2007 (most updated figures) are as below:

District	Elderly persons		Household with elderly residents	
	65 - 69	70+	65 - 69	70+
North	64 000	18 200	7 900	20 400
Tai Po	8 300	18 200	8 800	19 700
Sha Tin	18 400	47 100	18 400	41 300
Sai Kung	10 900	22 500	11 600	29 200

- (d) As at end-December 2008 (most updated figures), the number of elderly persons aged 60 or above living in public housing estates of the New Territories East was 70 647. As at end-February 2009, the number of OAA recipients living in public housing estates of the New Territories East was 29 761. We do not have records of the numbers of households with elderly residents or households with OAA recipients in public housing estates of the New Territories East.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)155

Question Serial No.

2585

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards the services for elders under Programme (3) in 2009, would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the respective populations aged between 60 to 64 and 65 or above in Sai Kung, Sha Tin, Tai Po and North Districts?
- (b) the number of places provided by District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs), Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs), Social Centres for the Elderly, Day Care Centres for the Elderly, Self-Care (S/C) Hostels, Homes for the Aged (H/A), Care-and-Attention (C&A) Homes, Nursing Homes (NH), private Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (RCHes) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and contract homes in the above districts?
- (c) the number of elders waitlisting for these residential and centre-based services in the above-mentioned districts?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : (a) The breakdown of elderly population by age and by district is as follows:

Age District	60-64	65 or above
Sai Kung	12 900	33 500
Sha Tin	25 400	65 500
Tai Po	8 400	26 600
North	9 100	24 600

Source: General Household Survey (2007) conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

- (b) The number of places provided by the various types of elderly services units (position as at end-March) is as follows:

District	Service Type								
	Number of DECCs (Note)	Number of NECs (Note)	Number of Social Centres for the Elderly (Note)	Day Care Places	S/C Hostel Places	H/A Places	C & A Places	NH Places	EBPS Places
Sai Kung	2	4	1	85	0	0	636	270	0
Sha Tin	3	10	4	176	0	0	1 170	0	114
Tai Po	1	4	3	44	0	0	1 156	0	100
North	1	2	4	44	0	0	821	254	357

Note: There is no fixed number of service places for DECCs, NECs and Social Centres for the Elderly.

There is no contract RCHE in the above-mentioned districts.

- (c) For subsidised residential care services, all applications are managed under the Central Waiting List for Subsidised Long Term Care Services on a territory-wide basis with no separate waiting list for individual districts. The number of waitlisted cases by type of places is as follows:

Type of places	Number of waitlisted cases (as at end-February 2009)
C&A places	17 966
NH places	6 303
S/C hostel and H/A places	Not applicable as the Social Welfare Department has ceased to accept new applications for placement in S/C hostel and H/A since 1 January 2003.

For day care services, as at end-February 2009, the numbers of waitlisted cases in Sai Kung, Sha Tin, Tai Po and North districts were 114, 185, 42 and 25 respectively.

There is no waiting list nor waiting time for elderly centre services provided by DECCs, NECs and Social Centres for the Elderly.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department will set up a new integrated children and youth services centre (ICYSC) in Tseung Kwan O in 2009-10. When will the ICYSC come into operation and where will it be located? How many types of services will be provided by the ICYSC for the young people? What is the estimated number of participants for each type of service? What is the estimated expenditure for each type of service in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply : The new ICYSC is in Tseung Kwan O Area 86 and is expected to commence operation in the fourth quarter of 2009. It will provide a wide range of comprehensive services including guidance and counselling services, supportive services for young people in disadvantaged circumstances, socialisation programmes and programmes for the development of social responsibility and competence. According to the current planning standard, an ICYSC will serve a population of 12 000 young people aged from six to 24.

We have no information on the ICYSC's estimated expenditure by service type as the operating NGO is subvented under the LSG subvention system and can flexibly deploy resources among the ICYSC's services to meet the actual service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration states in the Estimates that it will evaluate the operation of the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre and enhance support to Refuge Centres for Women (Refuge Centres) in 2009-10. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the specific plan, staffing establishment and expenditure involved;
- (b) of the current number, staffing establishment and expenditure of Refuge Centres, and the numbers and types of cases handled by them;
- (c) whether there are any cases having been rejected due to shortage of manpower. If yes, what are the details?
- (d) whether the Administration will increase the number of Refuge Centres. If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : (a) The Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre (the Centre), funded by the Lotteries Fund on a three-year pilot basis from January 2007 to December 2009, provides timely, professional and specialised services to victims of sexual violence and domestic violence as well as their family members. Through close collaboration with related professionals and service units, the operation of the Centre has been smooth since its inception in January 2007. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has received positive feedback on the effectiveness of service provision from service users and frontline professionals concerned. SWD will continue to closely monitor the performance and effectiveness of the Centre, and a review will be conducted upon the completion of the pilot project.

SWD will provide an annual recurrent funding of about \$10 million to maintain the operation of the Centre after the expiry of funding from the Lotteries Fund. Under the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) subvention system, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

SWD will also provide additional annual recurrent funding of \$2.3 million to strengthen the clinical support provided for victims of domestic violence by Refuge Centres and to improve the intake and referral mechanism of these centres.

- (b) At present, there are four Refuge Centres providing temporary accommodation and supportive services to women and their children affected by domestic violence or family crisis. All of them are operated by NGOs with subventions from SWD. In 2008-09, the total provision for Refuge Centres was about \$16.8 million and the total number of cases they handled between April and December 2008 was 660. Under the LSG subvention system, the NGOs operating these centres have the flexibility in arranging suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet the service needs.
- (c) Over the past few years, additional resources have been allocated to increase the capacity of Refuge Centres. The number of places has been increased from 162 in 2005-06 to 220 in 2008-09 to meet service demand and to ensure that there are reasonable vacancies to accommodate clients in need. Besides, all the Refuge Centres have taken into account the fluctuating demand and exercised flexibility to admit more cases during peak seasons. There have not been rejected cases due to shortage of manpower.
- (d) A new Refuge Centre with a capacity of 40 places is expected to commence operation in the third quarter of 2009.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the targets that the number of places for male and female hostels for ex-offenders will be maintained at 120 and ten in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the factors for determining the number of places for male and female hostels for ex-offenders?
- (b) the estimated expenditure for male and female hostels for ex-offenders respectively in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : (a) It has been the Social Welfare Department's established practice to allocate hostel places for male and female discharged prisoners using the 120:10 ratio. Judging from the occupancy rates as shown in the table below, the allocation is about right.

	2005-06 (%)		2006-07 (%)		2007-08 (%)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Occupancy rate	93.62	87.25	99.39	90.53	92.17	99.31

- (b) The estimated provision for hostels for ex-offenders in 2009-10 is \$6.4 million, comprising \$5.5 million for male places and \$0.9 million for female places.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under Programme (2) Social Security, would the Administration please provide the following information:

- (a) a breakdown of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) payments and the number of recipients by nature of cases in 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively; and
- (b) a breakdown of the number of low-earnings cases transferred from other CSSA case categories (by comparing the figures as at the end of 2007 with those as at the end of 2008).

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : (a) The average number of CSSA recipients and CSSA expenditure by nature of cases for 2007-08 and 2008-09 are as follows:

Nature of cases	2007-08	
	Average number of CSSA recipients	CSSA Expenditure (\$ million)#
Old Age	200 562	8,764
Permanent Disability	26 785	1,043
Ill Health	45 694	1,650
Single Parent	94 746	3,131
Low Earnings	61 335	1,288
Unemployment	65 650	1,836
Others	9 097	334
Total	503 868	18,045

Notes: Individual figures may not add up to respective totals due to rounding.

CSSA expenditure includes one additional month of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

Nature of cases	2008-09 Revised Estimate	
	Average number of CSSA recipients	CSSA Expenditure (\$ million)#
Old Age	197 700	9,533
Permanent Disability	26 200	1,162
Ill Health	44 000	1,788
Single Parent	90 000	3,153
Low Earnings	56 500	1,186
Unemployment	57 300	1,892
Others	9 400	367
Total	481 100	19,081

Note: # CSSA expenditure (Revised Estimate) includes two additional months of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

(b) Among the 16 080 low earnings cases involving 53 343 recipients as at December 2008, 2 677 cases were originally classified under other categories as at December 2007. Details are set out below:

Nature of cases as at December 2007	Number of cases changed to low earnings category as at December 2008	Number of recipients
Old Age	419	1 363
Permanent Disability	53	152
Ill Health	245	839
Single Parent	407	1 039
Unemployment	1 456	4 937
Others	97	277
Total	2 677	8 607

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the number of staff in each Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) team and the caseload as at December 2008.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : The caseload of each of the 18 EHCCS teams as at the end of December 2008 is as follows:

District	Caseload	District	Caseload
Central & Western	133	Sai Kung	118
Islands	69	Kwun Tong	232
Wanchai	124	Shatin	138
Eastern	182	Tai Po	79
Southern	98	North	120
Yau Tsim Mong	114	Yuen Long	105
Shamshuipo	125	Tsuen Wan	108
Kowloon City	168	Kwai Tsing	197
Wong Tai Sin	207	Tuen Mun	80

Six new teams were set up on 1 December 2008 to provide additional EHCCS places. The caseload of the respective teams as at end of December 2008 is as follows:

Cluster	Caseload
Hong Kong	16
Yau Tsim Mong & Kowloon City	29
Wong Tai Sin & Sai Kung	16
Kwun Tong	14
New Territories East	17
New Territories West	33

There is no strict staff requirement for the EHCCS teams. Operators are allowed to flexibly utilise the contract sum to deploy staff and form strategic alliance with professional bodies to meet the needs of their service users.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the number of cases receiving “infirm care supplement (ICS)” and “dementia supplement (DS)” in residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), and the amounts of supplements allocated to RCHEs with infirm and demented elders each year from 2006-07 to 2008-09.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : The number of qualified cases for ICS and DS, and the allocation to RCHEs taking care of infirm and demented elders staying in subsidised residential care places from 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as follows:

	ICS			DS		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Number of Qualified Cases	1 092	1 166	1 226	2 180	2 358	2 542
Amount of Allocation to RCHEs (\$ million)	28.6	41.8	45.4	13.7	22.4	24.3

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)162

Question Serial No.

2159

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the additional provision for strengthening the care for infirm and demented elders in residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The 2009-10 Estimate has earmarked an additional recurrent funding of about \$37 million to the RCHEs taking care of infirm and demented elders staying in subsidised residential care places. The initiative will enable the RCHEs to employ additional staff, including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nurses (registered or enrolled nurses), health workers and care workers, etc. to enhance the care for infirm and demented elders.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)163

Question Serial No.

2160

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under Programme (3), the provision for 2009-10 is \$261.7 million higher than the Revised Estimate for 2008-09, which includes the provision for providing additional subsidised home care places. Would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) what is the additional provision for home care services? How many additional places will be provided?
- (b) why is the number of cases served by the Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) in 2009 remained unchanged when compared with that in 2008?
- (c) given that, with an ageing population, the demand for home care services for the elderly will continue to increase and the cost per case served per month is comparatively lower than that of other services, will the Government consider increasing the subvention for home care services to reduce the demand for other services?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : (a) The estimated additional expenditure for the provision of home care services (i.e. Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) and IHCS) in 2009-10 is \$50.6 million.

We set up six new EHCCS teams in December 2008 to provide an additional service capacity of 810 cases for frail elders.

- (b) The number of cases served by IHCS in 2009-10 is estimated to be 28 600. In addition to IHCS, the Government also provides community care and support services to frail elders through EHCCS. As mentioned above, in December 2008, we set up six new EHCCS teams to provide an additional service capacity of 810 cases for frail elders.

- (c) To enable elders to age in the community and to support their carers, we have increased the recurrent provision for home-based services, including the additional provision for setting up six new EHCCS teams in December 2008, providing an additional service capacity of 810 cases.

As mentioned above, the estimated additional expenditure for the provision of home care services (i.e. EHCCS and IHCS) in 2009-10 is \$50.6 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Apart from increasing the number of places under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS), will the Administration provide additional resources to conduct monitoring and strengthen manpower for inspection to ensure that the quality of private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) meet the standards?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) is committed to enhancing the quality of RCHEs and ensuring that their services are provided at a satisfactory level. The Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (LORCHE) of SWD is responsible for the monitoring of RCHEs (including EBPS homes) to ensure compliance with the licensing requirements as well as any other requirements as set out in the RCHEs' respective agreements with SWD. To this end, SWD has strengthened the manpower of LORCHE by re-deploying an additional Senior Social Work Officer in 2007 to enhance the supervision of the monitoring work of LORCHE, and creating five Assistant Social Work Officer posts and five Registered Nurse posts in 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively with a view to strengthening the monitoring of the social welfare and health care services in RCHEs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department plans to continue providing training for the professional and non-professional staff serving demented elders in 2009-10. What are the details? Which grades are covered? What are the contents of the training?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : In 2009-10, a total of 240 training places will be offered to 120 professional staff (including registered social workers, nurses, occupational therapists and physiotherapists), as well as 120 non-professional staff (including personal care workers, home care workers and home helpers) who provide services to demented elders. The training programmes will cover the medical, psychological and care needs of demented elders, as well as the legal issues involved in taking care of / dealing with demented elders.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Government will recruit two more clinical psychologists (CPs) in 2009-10 to strengthen family and child protection service. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the basis on which it has decided to recruit two more CPs to meet the service demand? On the other hand, the Administration will not increase the number of CPs in subvented organisations in 2009-10. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply : The Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs) of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) provide psychological assessments and treatment for severe domestic violence cases, including statutory child protection cases handled by the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of SWD. They also develop and organise different types of treatment groups for victims, batterers and children witnessing violence in collaboration with FCPSUs. In view of the increasing service demand for CPUs and FCPSUs, two additional CPs will be allocated to the CPUs to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the batterer intervention programme. CPs in subvented non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are only minimally involved in these activities and SWD has no plan to increase the manpower of CPs in NGOs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : A reduction in the number of “intensive counselling/brief counselling/supportive casework cases served” and in “groups and programmes” is projected in the 2009-10 Estimate even though the number of service users of Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) is likely to increase due to the financial tsunami. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the reasons for the reduction; and
- (b) whether it has reserved funding to cope with possible family problems arising from the financial tsunami? If yes, what is the amount?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : (a) We estimate the number of cases to be served by IFSCs with reference to the latest figures available at the time. For the 2009-10 Draft Estimate, the figures are projections based on the number of cases handled in the first two quarters in 2008-09. They are comparable with the figures in the 2008-09 Revised Estimate.

The estimated number of groups and programmes to be organised by IFSCs in 2009-10 is the aggregate of the output indicators as stipulated in the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs). IFSCs may, as in previous years, organise more groups and programmes than the output level required in the FSAs according to service needs.

- (b) As always, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will closely monitor service needs and explore options to further strengthen the resources for IFSCs where necessary. Indeed, additional resources have been allocated to strengthen the manpower of IFSCs since 2005-06. To address the needs of individuals and families experiencing emotional and/or family problems arising from the current financial crisis, SWD has also allocated additional funding of \$2.17 million to non-governmental organisations in 2008-09 to set up two 24-hour Financial Crisis Emotional Support Hotlines.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration will provide additional funding of about \$37 million to residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) taking care of infirm elders and those with dementia. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the amounts of Infirm Care Supplement (ICS) and Dementia Supplement (DS), as well as the type and number of RCHEs to be provided with additional funding? Please give reply in the table below.

(a) Funding Allocation

	ICS	DS
Amount (\$)		
	Total \$37 million	

(b) Details of Funding Allocation

	For subsidised RCHEs		For private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)	
	Number of homes:	Number of beneficiaries:	Number of homes:	Number of beneficiaries:
ICS				
	Amount: \$		Amount: \$	
DS				
	Amount: \$		Amount: \$	

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The required information is as follows:

(a) Distribution of additional recurrent funding :

	ICS	DS
Amount of allocation	\$20 million	\$17 million
	Total : \$37 million	

(b) Projected allocation of ICS and DS (including the additional recurrent funding of \$37 million) in 2009-10 is as follows :

	Subvented RCHEs		Private RCHEs participating in EBPS	
ICS	Projected Number of RCHEs : 80	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 1 100	Projected Number of RCHEs : 40	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 160
	Amount of Allocation : \$59 million		Amount of Allocation : \$9 million	
DS	Projected Number of RCHEs : 130	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 2 730	Projected Number of RCHEs : 129	Projected Number of Qualified Cases : 1 230
	Amount of Allocation : \$30 million		Amount of Allocation : \$13 million	

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) The Administration will provide additional funding of about \$37 million to residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) taking care of infirm and demented elders. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the criteria for allocating funding to RCHEs?

- (b) Regarding the existing subsidised residential care services provided by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), as at January 2009, what are the amounts of Infirmity Care Supplement (ICS) and Dementia Supplement (DS) allocated to subsidised RCHEs, and the number of elders covered by the supplements? What is the number of elders who have met the eligibility criteria as assessed by the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams (CGATs) of the Hospital Authority (HA) and by the Psychogeriatric Teams (PGTs) of HA, but yet to receive the supplement? Please reply in the table below.

	Total number of infirm and demented elders in subvented RCHEs	Number of elders with allocation of supplement (as at January 2009)	Annual provision (\$)	Number of elders without allocation of supplement (as at January 2009)
For the care of infirm elders				
For the care of elders with dementia				

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

- Reply : (a) To enhance the support for infirm and demented elders staying in subsidised residential care places, an additional recurrent funding of \$37 million will be provided to RCHEs taking care of these elders as ICS and DS. The additional funding represents a substantial increase of 53% in the provision of ICS and DS.

The eligibility of elders for ICS is confirmed by HA's CGATs. According to the number of infirm elders in individual RCHEs, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will allocate ICS to RCHEs on a pro-rata basis. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

As regards DS, SWD will invite applications from subvented RCHEs which will conduct initial assessments for their elderly residents in accordance with a set of established criteria. The eligibility of elders for DS in these RCHEs will then be confirmed by HA's PGTs. Based on the number of eligible cases as confirmed by PGTs in these RCHEs, SWD will estimate the number of eligible elders in private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme providing subsidised residential care places. DS will be allocated to RCHEs on a pro-rata basis according to the estimated number of demented elders. The allocation exercise is conducted annually.

- (b) The allocation of ICS and DS in 2008-09 to NGOs providing subsidised residential care services is as follows –

	Number of qualified cases	Number of qualified cases with allocation (as at end-January 2009)	Annual Allocation in 2008-09 \$ million	Number of qualified cases without allocation (as at end-January 2009)
ICS	1 100	1 100	37.7	0
DS	2 542	2 542	24.3	0

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the proposal of the Administration to provide 650 residential care places by increasing the funding of about \$55 million, how many of these places will be purchased from private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) through the “Enhanced Bought Place Scheme” (EBPS)? What is the cost per place? How many of the places are provided in the two new contract homes? What are the types of services? What are the locations of the homes? When will the elders be admitted to the homes?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The additional recurrent funding of about \$55 million includes \$38 million for purchasing 500 additional subsidised residential care places at care-and-attention (C&A) level from private RCHEs through EBPS at the estimated unit cost of \$6,111 per month; and about \$17 million for providing 150 additional subsidised residential care places in two newly built contract RCHEs.

The two newly built contract RCHEs are located in Tung Chung New Town and Sai Ying Pun, and will provide 90 and 60 subsidised residential care places respectively. Among the additional subsidised places, 70% are nursing home places and 30% are C&A places. The two concerned contract RCHEs are tentatively scheduled to commence services in 2011-12.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the provision for prevention of elder abuse in 2009-10? What are the work items?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need, including victims of elder abuse. Services pertaining to prevention of elder abuse are provided mainly through the joint efforts of District Elderly Community Centres, Neighbourhood Elderly Centres and Integrated Family Service Centres. Prevention of elder abuse is also covered by the publicity campaign on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence” and training for relevant frontline professionals. However, there is no breakdown for funding specifically allocated for the prevention of elder abuse.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What was the total number of elders who had waitlisted for nursing home (NH) places during the period from March 2008 to February 2009? How many of them were allocated NH places, withdrew their applications or passed away while waiting? What were their accommodation statuses while waiting (residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), private RCHEs (including those participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS), public housing and private housing)?

	March 2008 to February 2009
Number of elders who were allocated places	
Number of elders who withdrew their applications	
Number of elders who passed away while waiting	

Type of accommodation	Number of applicants as at February 2009
RCHEs (excluding private RCHEs)	
Private RCHEs (including those participating in EBPS)	
Public housing	
Private housing	
Others (e.g. hospitals)	

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : From 1 March 2008 to end-February 2009, about 9 200 elders had waitlisted for subsidised NH places. Among those waitlisted for subsidised NH places during that period, the respective numbers of elders who left the waiting list for various reasons are set out below :

	Number of elders
Number of elders who were allocated places	618
Number of elders who withdrew their applications	315
Number of elders who passed away while waiting	1 754
Number of elders who left the waiting list for other reasons (e.g. no longer required the service due to change of circumstances)	210
Total:	2 897

The accommodation status of all the elders who had waitlisted for subsidised NH places over a period is not readily available. However, the accommodation status of the 6 303 elders waitlisted for subsidised NH places as at end-February 2009 is set out below for reference :

Type of accommodation	Number of elders
RCHEs (excluding private RCHEs)	670
Private RCHEs (including those participating in EBPS)	3 782
Public housing	772
Private housing	1 015
Others (e.g. hospitals)	64
Total:	6 303

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the “Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP)” which deeply impresses the Financial Secretary, please provide the following information on the six districts where the project has been implemented since October 2008:

- (a) the expenditure involved;
- (b) the number of children served and the percentage in the total children population of the same age in the district;
- (c) the number of service hours;
- (d) the number of cases on the waiting list for such service;
- (e) subsidies for service providers and their percentages in the total expenditure involved;
- (f) has any assessment been conducted with regard to the above questions when the project is implemented? If yes, what are the figures?
- (g) Child care service is usually provided by women from the grassroot level and the six districts that have been chosen are areas where the poor live. Has the Financial Secretary any plan to subsume this project under welfare services so as to increase employment opportunities for women from the grassroot level?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : (a) The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the pilot NSCCP. The provision is for a period of three years starting from 2008-09. It covers the six projects which have commenced operation since October 2008 as well as five other projects which will commence operation within March 2009. The annual allocation for each project is \$1.27 million.

- (b) For the six projects which have commenced operation since October 2008, the total number of children served in November and December 2008 is 328. We have not estimated the number of children served as a percentage of the total children population in the district as eligibility rate does not represent the level of service demand.
- (c) From November to December 2008, a total of 4 936 home-based child care service hours were recorded.
- (d) There has been no waiting list since the launch of the project. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) is not aware of any needy children who were unable to receive NSCCP service.
- (e) Service operators can flexibly deploy the fee income from the projects and the \$1.27 million annual allocation from SWD for each project to pay the child carers, save for the amount set aside for the fee subsidy for service users. We therefore do not know the remuneration for child carers as a percentage of the total expenditure.
- (f) Where available, the figures have been provided in parts (a) to (e) above. The Administration will closely monitor the service provision and will conduct a review of the NSCCP in late 2010.
- (g) The NSCCP is not an employment scheme. As the Financial Secretary has pointed out in his Budget Speech, the NSCCP, in encouraging the community to take care of young children of their neighbours, can foster a closer community relationship while providing more flexible child care services to parents in need in addition to the regular ones.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is generally expected that the employment situation will deteriorate in 2009, and the unemployment rate will rise. However, there is a negative growth in the expenditure for Social Security in the Estimates, and the number of cases served is projected to be the same as the previous year. Although there was a growth in the expenditure for Social Security in 2008 due to the implementation of one-off “relief measures”, it is expected that more and more unemployed persons will fall into the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) net. How will the Social Welfare Department assess the impact of the rising unemployment rate on the number of cases in applying for/receiving CSSA and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The 2008-09 Revised Estimate at \$19,081 million includes the provision of an additional one-off two months of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients estimated at \$2,078 million. The 2009-10 Estimate of \$18,304 million is, in fact, higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 7.7%, if the above one-off provision is to be discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to cover an upsurge in applications owing to worsening economic condition.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With regard to the handling of the problem of elder abuse, what is the provision for this specific item in 2009-10? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need, including victims of elder abuse. Services pertaining to prevention of elder abuse are provided mainly through the joint efforts of District Elderly Community Centres, Neighbourhood Elderly Centres and Integrated Family Service Centres. Prevention of elder abuse is also covered by the publicity campaign on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence” and training for relevant frontline professionals. However, there is no breakdown for funding specifically allocated for the prevention of elder abuse.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With regard to spouse battering services, the services for women in particular, what is the provision for this specific item in 2009-10? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through the Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs), Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs), Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc.

In 2009-10, the total estimated provision for these services is \$1,785.3 million, including the additional recurrent funding of \$24.5 million to further strengthen direct support to victims of domestic violence and families in need, viz strengthening the manpower of FCPSUs and CPUs, further developing the batterer intervention programme, and enhancing support for various refuge and crisis centres. There is no breakdown on funding specifically allocated for the services for women. Except the Refuge Centres for Women which are exclusively for women, all support services for victims and abusers of domestic violence are provided to all persons in need, irrespective of their gender.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With regard to spouse battering services, the services for men in particular, what is the provision for this specific item in 2009-10? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through the Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs), Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs), Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc.

In 2009-10, the total estimated provision for these services is \$1,785.3 million, including the additional recurrent funding of \$24.5 million to further strengthen direct support to victims of domestic violence and families in need, viz. strengthening the manpower of FCPSUs and CPUs, further developing the batterer intervention programme, and enhancing support for various refuge and crisis centres. There is no breakdown on funding specifically allocated for the services for men. Except for the Refuge Centres for Women which are exclusively for women, all support services for victims and abusers of domestic violence are provided to all persons in need, irrespective of their gender.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With regard to child abuse services, what is the provision for this specific item in 2009-10? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence, including children, and families in need. These services are provided through the Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs), Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs), Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc.

In 2009-10, the total estimated provision for these services is \$1,785.3 million, including the additional recurrent funding of \$24.5 million to further strengthen direct support to victims of domestic violence and families in need, viz strengthening the manpower of FCPSUs and CPUs, further developing the batterer intervention programme, and enhancing support for various refuge and crisis centres (among which, the manpower of Po Leung Kuk New Comers Ward will be strengthened to provide timely support to children in need). There is no breakdown on funding specifically allocated for the services for children in need.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : With regard to sexual violence services, what is the provision for this specific item in 2009-10? What is the work to be done?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Administration recognises the uniqueness and importance of the services provided to victims of sexual violence. Following a review of the services for such victims, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has since March 2007 introduced a new comprehensive, one-stop service model involving multi-disciplinary assistance for such victims. Under the new service model, a designated social worker is assigned to provide immediate support and follow-up service for victims of sexual violence, including emotional support, counselling, reporting to the Police, arrangement of medical treatment and forensic examination, as well as escorting and accompanying the victims to go through all necessary procedures. There is a wide coverage of support network throughout the territory. Irrespective of the contact points of the victims, designated social workers can provide 24-hour outreaching service. The new service model enables victims to receive service and go through all relevant procedures in a convenient, safe, confidential and supportive environment, minimising also the need for the victims to repeat their unpleasant experience. Resources required for the provision of services by SWD and the relevant departments are absorbed within their existing provisions and no breakdown is available.

As an integral part of the new service model, SWD has commissioned a non-governmental organisation to operate the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre (the Centre), on a three-year pilot basis from January 2007 to December 2009, with funding support of \$20 million from the Lotteries Fund. The Centre provides timely, professional and specialised services to victims of sexual violence and domestic violence as well as their family members. Through close collaboration with related professionals and service units, the operation of the Centre has been smooth since its inception in January 2007. SWD has received positive feedback on the effectiveness of service provision from service users and frontline professionals concerned and

will therefore continue to fund the Centre after December 2009. Recurrent funding of \$10 million has been earmarked for this purpose. A review will be conducted upon the completion of the pilot project by end-2009 to, among other things, identify possible improvements.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the provision for Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) in 2009-10? How does the funding allocation for “food cost” compare with that of 2008-09? What is the utilisation rate of the services? How long is the waiting time for meal delivery service and household cleaning service in individual districts?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The allocation for IHCS in 2009-10 is \$454.3 million. We do not have a separate breakdown on food cost which is included under Other Charges of the Lump Sum Grant. As at the end of December 2008, the utilisation rate of the frailty tested home care services under IHCS was 98.7%. There is no utilisation rate for the non-frailty tested services under IHCS, which are monitored by the Social Welfare Department according to an output standard agreed with the service operators. The waiting time for IHCS, which includes services such as meal delivery and household cleaning, ranges from a few days to a few months, depending on the workload of individual IHCS teams and the type of services the elders require. We do not keep statistics on waiting time by district.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is mentioned in paragraph 117 of the Budget Speech that 650 additional subsidised residential care places will be provided through increasing the recurrent funding by about \$55 million. At present, over 17 800 elders are waiting for subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) places. To what extent will the waiting time be shortened by the additional provision? With the provision of 650 additional residential care places, what is the average waiting time for service admission for elders in various districts (excluding those who have chosen designated homes as their preference or those who were given priority for service admission due to exceptional circumstances)?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The additional 650 subsidised residential care places include 150 places to be provided in two newly built contract residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and 500 places to be purchased from private RCHEs through the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS).

The two newly built contract RCHEs will provide 70% nursing home (NH) places and 30% C&A places. The 500 additional places to be purchased through EBPS are all C&A places.

As the waiting time for subsidised NH and C&A places are affected by many factors, we are unable to estimate the extent to which the waiting time will be shortened by the additional provision. Also, all applications for subsidised residential care services are managed under the Central Waiting List for Subsidised Long Term Care Services on a territory-wide basis with no separate waiting list for individual districts.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the total number of elders who had waitlisted for subsidised care-and-attention (C&A) places (excluding those who had waitlisted for subsidised C&A places in private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS)) during the period from March 2008 to February 2009? How many of them were allocated subsidised C&A places, withdrew their applications or passed away while waiting? What were their accommodation statuses while waiting (private RCHEs, public housing or private housing)? What was the average waiting time in various districts (excluding elders who had chosen designated homes as their preference or those who were given priority for service admission due to exceptional circumstances)?

	March 2008 to February 2009
Number of elders who were allocated places	
Number of elders who withdrew their applications	
Number of elders who passed away while waiting	

Type of accommodation	Number of applicants as at February 2009
RCHEs (excluding private RCHEs)	
Private RCHEs (including those participating in the EBPS)	
Public housing	
Private housing	
Others (e.g. hospitals)	

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : As eligible elders can choose to wait for subsidised C&A places in subvented/contract RCHes as well as those in EBPS homes, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) only captures the total number of cases waitlisted for all kinds of subsidised C&A places. From 1 March 2008 to end-February 2009, about 27 880 elders had waitlisted for subsidised C&A places in subvented/contract RCHes and/or EBPS homes. Among those elders waitlisted for C&A places during that period, the respective numbers of elders who left the waiting list for various reasons are set out below :

	Number of elders
Number of elders who were allocated places	3 990
Number of elders who withdrew their applications	2 149
Number of elders who passed away while waiting	2 415
Number of elders who left the waiting list for other reasons (e.g. no longer required the service due to change of circumstances)	1 360
Total:	9 914

The accommodation status of all elders who had waitlisted for C&A places over a period is not readily available. However, the accommodation status of the 17 966 elders waitlisted for C&A places as at end-February 2009 is set out below for reference:

Type of accommodation	Number of elders
RCHes (excluding private RCHes)	864
Private RCHes (including those participating in the EBPS)	5 517
Public housing	6 547
Private housing	4 805
Others (e.g. hospitals)	233
Total:	17 966

As regards the waiting time, all applications for subsidised residential care services are managed under the Central Waiting List for Subsidised Long Term Care Services on a territory-wide basis. There is no separate waiting list for individual districts. As at end-February 2009, the average waiting time (excluding cases where elders have specific requirements on the RCHes they are waiting for as well as the priority cases) for subsidised C&A places was as follows:

Type of service	Average waiting time (as at end-February 2009) (in months)
C&A places (Subvented / Contract Home)	22
C&A places (Under EBPS)	4

It is worth noting that the majority of the elders on the waiting list have specific requirements on the RCHEs they are waiting for (such as requesting for particular RCHEs or specific location of RCHEs). Hence, the overall average waiting time for subsidised C&A places in subvented/contract RCHEs and EBPS homes as of end-February 2009 was 32 months and 8 months respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated provision for demented elders living in the community in 2009-10? What is the current number of centres providing care services for demented elders in the territory? What is the waiting time for such services?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The Government provides subsidised community care services through Day Care Centres/Units for the Elderly (DEs/DCUs), Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS), Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) to support frail elders including demented elders to age in the community. The total expenditure for the subsidised community care services is estimated to be \$762.4 million in 2009-10. At present, there are 58 DEs/DCUs, 24 EHCCS teams and 60 IHCS teams. As at end-February 2009, the average waiting time for day care places is eight months and that for home-based services (i.e. EHCCS and IHCS) varies from a few days to a few months, with an average of 2.9 months.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the provision earmarked for Day Care Centres for the Elderly (D/Es) by the Government in the 2009-10 financial year? How many such centres are there in Hong Kong? What is the waiting time for this type of service? Since the enrolment rate of these centres is already over 110%, would the Government consider expanding these centres, so as to meet the requirements of the Fire Services Ordinance and the need for providing recreational space and care for elders?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The estimated annual expenditure for day care services in 2009-10 is about \$170 million. At present, there are 58 D/Es or Day Care Units for the Elderly (DCUs) throughout the territory. The average waiting time for day care services is about eight months. An additional 80 day care places will be provided in 2009-10 in four districts. The average waiting time is expected to shorten upon full implementation of these new places. Since some elders occupy only a half-day place or do not attend the centres every day, it is therefore possible for the D/Es and DCUs to take in additional elders to fill in the unused time slots and places. We have accordingly set the enrolment rate at 110% to maximise the utilisation of the day care places. The Social Welfare Department would make reference to the service capacity and standard schedule of accommodation of D/Es and DCUs to allocate funding and provide space for the centres to meet the service needs of the users. Design and fitting-out of all D/Es and DCUs projects are in compliance with fire safety requirements.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the provision for Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) in the 2009-10 financial year? Regarding the 24-hour emergency support service under IHCS, please inform this Committee of the number of calls for assistance received from individual districts from March 2008 to February 2009, details of assistance requested and means adopted by the elders to call for assistance.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The allocation for IHCS in 2009-10 is \$454.3 million. Regarding the 24-hour emergency support service under IHCS, the number of calls for assistance received from frailty-tested elders taken care by IHCS from April to December 2008, breakdown by district, is as follows:

District	Number of calls
Central & Western	0
Islands	0
Wanchai	1
Eastern	6
Southern	7
Yau Tsim Mong	0
Sham Shui Po	3
Kowloon City	1
Wong Tai Sin	4
Sai Kung	0
Kwun Tong	20
Sha Tin	18
Tai Po	0
North	0
Yuen Long	0
Tsuen Wan	0
Kwai Tsing	1
Tuen Mun	0

Separate data for March 2008 and that for January and February 2009 are not available.

As for the details of assistance requested, the majority of the requests were related to domestic accidents and acute health problems. Most of the service users made their requests by paging a designated staff or calling the 24-hour support hotline provided by IHCS operators.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the provision for Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) for elders in 2009-10? Regarding the 24-hour emergency support service under EHCCS, please inform this Committee of the number of calls for assistance received from individual districts from March 2008 to February 2009, details of assistance requested and means adopted by the elders to call for assistance.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply : The allocation for the 24 EHCCS teams in 2009-10 is about \$138.1 million.

For the 18 EHCCS teams set up since 2005, the number of calls for assistance received under the 24-hour emergency support services from March to December 2008, breakdown by district, is as follows:

District	Number of calls
Central & Western	15
Islands	10
Wanchai	11
Eastern	69
Southern	0
Yau Tsim Mong	36
Sham Shui Po	21
Kowloon City	47
Wong Tai Sin	137
Sai Kung	25
Kwun Tong	142
Sha Tin	19
Tai Po	36
North	7
Yuen Long	86
Tsuen Wan	45
Kwai Tsing	103
Tuen Mun	56

Data for January and February 2009 are not yet available.

Six new EHCCS teams were set up on 1 December 2008 to provide additional service places. The number of calls for assistance received from elders from March to December 2008 is as follows:

Cluster	Number of calls
Hong Kong	0
Yau Tsim Mong & Kowloon City	0
Wong Tai Sin & Sai Kung	0
Kwun Tong	3
New Territories East	0
New Territories West	3

Data for January and February 2009 are not yet available.

As for the details of assistance requested, the majority of the requests were related to acute health problems. Others were about seeking of medical, nursing or professional advice; incidents of fall-related injuries; domestic accidents; and general physical or psychological health issues. Most of the service users made their requests through the emergency alarm system installed in their homes, or by calling the 24-hour support hotline provided by EHCCS operators.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10”, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) what are the specific details and resources allocation regarding the plan to further develop and continue to implement the pilot project of Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP)?
- (b) what is the current number of participating organisations; what is the number of batterers on voluntary and mandatory participation; what is the number of social workers designated for the BIP; and what is the amount of subventions allocated to each participating organisation?
- (c) will the Government publicise the BIP and what is the provision earmarked for this purpose?

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

Reply : The two-year pilot project of BIP launched by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) was completed in March 2008 and it had been proven to be effective in helping abusers change their abusive behaviour. To promote the BIP, SWD had shared its experience of the pilot project with relevant stakeholders and developed user manuals for use by trained professionals. Following the completion of the pilot project, all 11 Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of SWD have continued to run the BIP for suitable clients as part of their counselling service. About two to three social workers in each FCPSU are trained to implement the BIP. In 2008-09, a total of 83 batterers participated in the BIP. Of these, 50 participated on a voluntary basis and 33 were subject to probation orders. It is estimated that about 90 batterers will participate in the programme in 2009-10. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated to the BIP as it is an integrated component of the counselling service for batterers.

Besides, SWD will further study and develop suitable treatment models for different types of batterers. In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists will be allocated to FCPSUs and Clinical Psychology Units respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the BIP.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) Regarding the “Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project” (NSCCP) mentioned in the Brief Description, would the Administration please provide the number of participants in total (including the number of children under care, parents, families and volunteers providing the service) and the provision involved in 2008-09?
- (b) What are the estimated number of participants of the NSCCP in total and the provision for the NSCCP in 2009-10?

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

- Reply : (a) The NSCCP will have been fully rolled out by the end of 2008-09, covering all the administrative districts of the Social Welfare Department. It will provide at least 286 home-based child care places and 154 centre-based care group places in total. The total number of children served by the six projects in November 2008 and December 2008 is 328. We do not have separate statistics on the number of parents, families or volunteers participating in the projects.

The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the NSCCP for a period of three years starting from 2008-09. The annual allocation for each project is \$1.27 million.

- (b) The NSCCP will have been fully rolled out by the end of 2008-09. The annual allocation for each project and the minimum number of places to be provided will remain unchanged in 2009-10. Service operators may increase the number of home-based child care places flexibly if there is a service demand.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) launched the pilot Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) in six districts in October 2008. What are the implementation details at the initial stage? Why does the Government plan to extend the project to other districts despite the fact that the project has only been implemented for less than six months and no comprehensive evaluation has been conducted?

Asked by : Hon. Leung Mei-fan, Priscilla

Reply : The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the pilot NSCCP for a period of three years starting from 2008-09. The pilot NSCCP consists of a total of 11 projects, one in each administrative district of SWD, and is implemented in two phases. The six projects in phase one have commenced operation since October 2008. The total number of children served by these six projects in November 2008 and December 2008 is 328. The other five projects in phase two will commence operation within March 2009. Together, the 11 projects will provide at least 286 home-based child care places and 154 centre-based care group places.

All the projects will operate until the end of March 2011. A review of the NSCCP will be conducted in late 2010 to evaluate the effectiveness of the project as a flexible child care service.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards the initiative of providing a monthly Transport Supplement for eligible persons with disabilities (PWDs) on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) or receiving Disability Allowance (DA), so far how many PWDs have been benefited from such initiative? Has the Administration assessed whether the supplement is sufficient to cover the travelling expenses of PWDs? If yes, please give the details. What is the expenditure involved in making such assessment?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : As at end-January 2009, there were 44 451 CSSA and 58 100 DA recipients receiving Transport Supplement.

To meet the basic transport needs of PWDs, the Government has all along been providing Rehabus service and financial assistance through CSSA and DA payment. In order to encourage PWDs to participate more in activities away from home and enhance their contact with and integration into the society, the Transport Supplement has been introduced as an incentive for PWDs to go out more and they may decide on their own as to how best to make use of the additional supplement having regard to individual needs. The expenditure for CSSA and DA recipients for 2008-09 (up to January 2009) were \$61 million and \$80 million respectively.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

- Question : (a) What was the expenditure incurred in 2008-09 for providing humanitarian assistance to torture claimants and asylum seekers? Please provide a breakdown as to the number of children, adults and number of families supported by the assistance in the form of house rent and food.
- (b) For the humanitarian assistance to torture claimants and asylum seekers granted in 2008-09, please provide a breakdown as to the number of people receiving: (a) \$1,000 in house rent subsidy; (b) food supplies; (c) support for utilities expenses; (d) transportation expenses.
- (c) What standards are used to provide food to adults and children (of those torture claimants and asylum seekers)? Are there any nutritional standards used to ensure that the food provided is nutritious?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply : (a) On humanitarian grounds, the Administration, in collaboration with non-governmental organisations and on a case-by-case basis, offers assistance-in-kind to asylum seekers and torture claimants who are deprived of basic needs during their presence in Hong Kong or while their claims are being processed by the relevant authorities. The Social Welfare Department, as a service delivery agent in support of the overall policy on asylum seekers and torture claimants under the Security Bureau, has commissioned the International Social Service Hong Kong Branch (ISS-HK) to provide assistance-in-kind to vulnerable asylum seekers and torture claimants in the form of temporary accommodation, food, clothing and other basic necessities, and appropriate transport allowance. The provision for this service contract in 2008-09 is \$50.9 million.

As at 31 January 2009, the ISS-HK's service project was supporting 2 912 singleton cases and 49 family cases involving a total of 3 063 asylum seekers and torture claimants. Among these asylum seekers and torture claimants were 80 children (aged below 18) and 2 983 adults (aged 18 or above).

- (b) As at 31 January 2009, the number of asylum seekers/torture claimants receiving temporary accommodation (including the provision of utilities), food and transport allowances under the ISS-HK's service project was as follows:

Type of assistance	Number of asylum seekers/torture claimants
Temporary accommodation (including the provision of utilities)	2 616
Food	2 477
Transport allowance	2 974

- (c) There is no standard package of food assistance for individual adult and child asylum seekers/torture claimants. They are provided with a variety of food items, including vegetables, fruit, meat as well as baby/children food where applicable. Nutritious, cultural, religious and other specific needs are catered for as appropriate. ISS-HK also makes reference to the healthy eating principles proposed by the Department of Health and the advice from the agency's dietician to ensure that appropriate food is provided to meet the users' nutritious needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As stated in the Estimates, the Government will provide \$1.6 billion and create 62 000 jobs and internship opportunities in the next three years. Do the 62 000 jobs and internship opportunities include those offered by the employment assistance projects which aim at helping the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients rejoin the workforce? If yes, how many of them are for helping CSSA recipients rejoin the workforce?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply : The Social Welfare Department has commissioned non-governmental organisations to operate employment assistance projects to encourage and assist CSSA able-bodied unemployed recipients to secure employment and achieve self-reliance. Such projects are not related to the jobs and internship opportunities referred to in the Estimates. Nevertheless, the creation of 62 000 jobs and internship opportunities in the next three years should benefit all unemployed, including CSSA recipients.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in paragraph 113 of the Budget Speech 2009-10, the pilot Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) will be extended in March this year. Will the Government inform this Committee the details and implementation timetable of the project? How many households have benefited from the existing scheme? What is the target of the project in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the pilot NSCCP. The provision is for a period of three years starting from 2008-09. Six projects in Tung Chung, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Chung, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Kwun Tong have commenced operation since October 2008, providing a total of at least 156 home-based child care places and 84 centre-based care group places. Five other projects in Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung, Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong, Tai Po/North, Sha Tin, and Eastern/Wan Chai will commence operation within March 2009, making a total of 11 projects in 2009-10. The 11 projects will altogether provide at least 286 home-based child care places and 154 centre-based care group places.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under the Programme on “Services for Elders”, the Government will allocate \$3,980 million to promote the welfare of the elderly in 2009-10. Please state the respective provisions for residential care services as well as community care and support services for the elderly in 2009-10 and over the past three years (i.e. 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09).

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The respective provisions for residential care services and community care and support services for the elderly in 2009-10 and in the past three years are as follows:

	2006-07 (Actual) (\$ million)	2007-08 (Actual) (\$ million)	2008-09 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2009-10 (Estimate) (\$ million)
Residential Care Services	1,966.2	2,082.0	2,246.6	2,411.1
Community Care and Support Services	995.3	1,073.9	1,233.3	1,321.7
Total:	2,961.5	3,155.9	3,479.9	3,732.8

In 2009-10, apart from residential care services and community care and support services, additional resources have been earmarked under this programme for strengthening the administrative support of non-governmental organisations, providing time-limited posts of programme workers in elderly service units, and organising two classes of the Enrolled Nurse Training

Programme for the Welfare Sector to provide an additional 220 training places, etc. All these add up to the projected total expenditure of \$3,980 million under the “Services for Elders” programme in the 2009-10 Estimate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated number of homes to participate in the conversion of self-care (S/C) hostel and home for the aged (H/A) places in 2009-10? How many S/C hostels and/or H/As have yet to participate in the conversion programme? What is the provision involved in the 5 063 residential care places to be provided by the participating homes in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2009-10, it is estimated that two more homes will kick-start the conversion programme. There remains 10 homes which have yet to participate in the programme. The estimated financial provision for providing a cumulative total of 5 063 places under the conversion programme is about \$580 million per annum.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)196

Question Serial No.

1994

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many training places will be provided for professional and non-professional staff serving demented elders in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2009-10, a total of 240 training places will be offered to 120 professional staff and 120 non-professional staff who are providing services to demented elders.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Will the Social Welfare Department (SWD) continue to offer training to care staff serving persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) teams in 2009-10? How many training places will be provided? What is the provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : SWD will continue to offer training to care staff serving PWDs in the IHCS teams in 2009-10. A total of 120 training places will be provided and the estimated expenditure is \$35,000.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : There will be no increase, for three consecutive years, in the numbers of District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs), Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs) and Social Centres for the Elderly (S/Es) in 2009-10. What are the reasons? Does the Administration plan to provide additional space for these centres? If yes, how much?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Currently, there are 41 DECCs, 115 NECs and 57 S/Es which form a territory-wide social support network to provide services to the elders and their carers in the community. In 2003, a re-engineering exercise was launched to upgrade the then Multi-service Centres for the Elderly and most of the S/Es to DECCs and NECs. In view of the enhanced functions of DECCs and NECs, we have increased the internal floor area provision of a DECC by 83 square metres (which now stands at 572 square metres) and that of an NEC by 156 square metres (which now stands at 394 square metres). At present, about half of DECCs and one-third of NECs have attained the enhanced standard space provision. We shall continue to help the remaining centres to relocate or set up sub-bases to meet the prescribed schedule of accommodation. Meanwhile, we will also monitor the service demand for new centres, especially in the newly developed residential sites.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the respective provisions for District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs), Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs) and Social Centres for the Elderly (S/Es) in 2009-10? Is there any variation when compared with the previous financial year (i.e. 2008-09)?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The provisions for various kinds of elderly centres in 2008-09 and 2009-10 as well as the difference are shown below:

Centres/Year	2008-09 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2009-10 (Estimate) (\$ million)	Difference (\$ million)
DECCs	247.8	261.6	+13.8 (+5.6%)
NECs	207.3	217.1	+9.8 (+4.7%)
S/Es	51.5	52.2	+0.7 (+1.4%)
Total:	506.6	530.9	+24.3 (+4.8%)

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the provision for the Home Environment Improvement Scheme for the Elderly (HEISE) in 2009-10? How many organisations are entrusted to run the HEISE? What is the expected number of cases to be served?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : All the 41 District Elderly Community Centres throughout the territory are engaged by the Social Welfare Department as delivery agencies of HEISE. The financial provision for HEISE in 2009-10 is \$40 million. It is estimated that a total of 8 000 cases will be handled by the delivery agencies in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)201

Question Serial No.

1999

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the financial resources involved for providing 2 314 places in the Day Care Centres for the Elderly in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated annual expenditure for the provision of 2 314 day care places in 2009-10 is about \$170 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What plans does the Social Welfare Department (SWD) have to promote active ageing in 2009-10? What is the provision earmarked for this purpose? Is there any difference in provision when compared with last financial year (i.e. 2008-09)?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Promotion of active ageing is part and parcel of the services provided by the elderly centres and there is no breakdown on the expenditure on active ageing alone.

Apart from the elderly centre services, SWD also promotes active ageing through the Opportunities for the Elderly Project (OEP). OEP subsidises various social service agencies, district organisations, volunteer groups and educational agencies to carry out programmes to promote a sense of worthiness among the elders and advocate a community spirit of care for elders. Similar to the previous year, \$3 million is earmarked to subsidise programmes under the OEP in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2009-10, how many training places will be provided under the Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector? What is the provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2009-10, the Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with the Hospital Authority, will launch two classes of Enrolled Nurse Training Programme for the Welfare Sector to provide a total of 220 additional training places. The financial provision involved is \$12.1 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated expenditure for the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) in 2009-10? What is the provision required for purchasing additional places?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2009-10, the estimated annual expenditure for providing subsidised residential care places under EBPS is \$504.2 million, which includes the extra provision of \$38 million for providing an additional 500 EBPS places.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the provision for the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) in 2009-10? Is there any variation when compared with the previous financial year (i.e. 2008-09)?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated annual expenditure for the provision of EHCCS in 2009-10 is \$138.1 million, representing an increase of \$49.6 million (i.e. 56%) as compared with 2008-09.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : There will be no increase, for two consecutive years, in the number of cases served by the Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) in 2009-10. What are the reasons? What is the provision for the IHCS?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The allocation for IHCS in 2009-10 is \$454.3 million. In addition to IHCS, the Government also provides community care and support services to frail elders through the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS). In December 2008, we set up six new EHCCS teams to provide an additional service capacity of 810 cases for frail elders. The estimated annual expenditure for the provision of EHCCS in 2009-10 is \$138.1 million, representing an increase of \$49.6 million (i.e. 56%) as compared with 2008-09.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)207

Question Serial No.

2005

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will further strengthen the manpower of the Contract Management Section (CMS) in 2009-10. What are the details? What is the additional provision required?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2009-10, two posts of the Social Work Officer grade will be created in CMS of SWD to assist in the tendering and monitoring of contract services for the elderly, including contract residential care homes and community care services. The estimated annual expenditure is \$1.1 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the estimated number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) cases and the government expenditure involved under various categories (including old age, disability, ill health, single-parent family, low earnings, unemployment and others) respectively in 2009-10? Is there any change when compared with the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09)? Please provide the information in table form.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The average number of CSSA cases and the expenditure by nature of cases for 2007-08 are as follows:

Nature of case	2007-08 Actual	
	Average number of cases	Expenditure [#] (\$ million)
Old Age	147 748	8,764
Permanent Disability	17 232	1,043
Ill Health	22 862	1,650
Single Parent	35 572	3,131
Low Earnings	15 928	1,288
Unemployment	28 227	1,836
Others	5 356	334
Total	272 925	18,045

Notes: Individual figures may not add up to respective totals due to rounding.

Expenditure includes one additional month of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

The estimated average number of CSSA cases and expenditure by nature of cases for 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

Nature of case	2008-09 Revised Estimate	
	Average number of cases	Expenditure [#] (\$ million)
Old Age	147 100	9,533
Permanent Disability	17 200	1,162
Ill Health	23 000	1,788
Single Parent	34 400	3,153
Low Earnings	14 900	1,186
Unemployment	27 900	1,892
Others	5 600	367
Total	270 100	19,081

Note: # Expenditure (Revised Estimate) includes two additional months of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

Nature of case	2009-10 Estimate	
	Average number of cases	Expenditure (\$ million)
Old Age	148 800	9,124
Permanent Disability	17 800	1,139
Ill Health	23 700	1,760
Single Parent	34 700	3,034
Low Earnings	15 600	1,204
Unemployment	26 200	1,669
Others	6 100	374
Total	272 900	18,304

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the estimated numbers of cases and the estimated expenditure involved in Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) and Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme in 2009-10? Is there any change when compared with the past two years (i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09)? Please provide the information in table form.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The numbers of HOAA and NOAA cases and the expenditure incurred in 2007-08 are as follows:

	2007-08 Actual	
	Average number of cases	Expenditure# (\$ million)
HOAA	389 410	3,533
NOAA	68 890	569

The estimated average numbers of cases and expenditure for 2008-09 and 2009-10 are provided below:

	2008-09 Revised Estimate	
	Average number of cases	Expenditure* (\$ million)
HOAA	410 400	5,659
NOAA	67 800	881

Note: # The 2007-08 Actual Expenditure includes the payment of one additional month of allowance for OAA recipients.

* The 2008-09 Revised Estimate includes the payment of the one-off grant of \$3,000 and two additional months of allowance for OAA recipients.

	2009-10 Estimate	
	Average number of cases	Expenditure (\$ million)
HOAA	454 400	5,455
NOAA	73 300	881

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards the elderly persons under the Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) Scheme, is there any change with the estimated number of elderly persons who will return to Guangdong Province and Fujian Province in 2009-10 as compared with those in the previous year (i.e. 2008-09)? What is the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated number of PCSSA recipients residing in Guangdong and Fujian and the estimated total expenditure in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

	2008-09	2009-10
Estimated number of PCSSA recipients residing in Guangdong	2 965	3 020
Estimated number of PCSSA recipients residing in Fujian	180	240
Estimated total number of PCSSA recipients	3 145	3 260
Estimated total expenditure	\$104 million	\$111 million

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the provision for and the estimated number of participants in the Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP) in 2009-10? Is there any change when compared with the previous year (i.e. 2008-09)?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Four My STEP projects have been launched for two years from October 2007 to September 2009. The estimated cost of the four My STEP projects is \$9.9 million to serve at least 560 target participants in two years. As at end-January 2009, a total of 588 CSSA unemployed youths have joined the My STEP projects.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In the 2008-09 Estimates, it was planned that there would be a net increase of 112 posts under the Programme of Social Security. What were the actual results? What are the reasons for creating another 58 posts in 2009-10? What are the duties of the newly created posts and the additional provision required?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : Under Programme (2), having regard to the actual operational needs of the Social Welfare Department, 91 posts were created in 2008-09.

The 58 posts to be created in 2009-10 are for supporting the implementation of the employment assistance projects for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients and the replacement of the Computerised Social Security System, and for conducting a Household Expenditure Survey on CSSA Households.

The additional annual expenditure involved is about \$18 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department Subhead (No. & title) :
700 – General non-recurrent

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the estimated expenditure and concrete work plan for the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged (the Fund) under Item 470 in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : In 2009-10, the estimated expenditure of the Fund is \$28 million. The Fund will continue to promote tripartite partnership among the non-governmental organisations, the business sector and the Government in assisting the disadvantaged and building a caring and harmonious society. In January 2009, the Government announced the launch of the Fifth Round of application for the Fund. A special measure has been introduced to raise the ceiling of the matching grant to \$3 million for projects that would assist vulnerable individuals or families affected by the recent financial crisis.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding item 521, “Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise (3E’s Project)”, under Operating Account, what are the work plans and the estimated expenditure involved in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The 3E’s Project is a funding project providing seed money to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for setting up small businesses to create employment for persons with disabilities (PWDs). The Marketing Consultancy Office (Rehabilitation) (MCO(R)) of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides support services to NGOs on the setting up and operation of businesses, liaises with government bureaux/departments and the commercial sector to assist NGOs in securing service/job orders, and promotes their businesses in publicity/marketing events. These support measures will continue in 2009-10 to further encourage NGOs to set up more small businesses.

In addition, the MCO(R) has been entrusted to continue to collaborate with NGOs in promoting the brand name of “SEPD” (Support of the Employment of People with Disabilities) registered by the Administration for the products and services provided by PWDs. In 2009-10, the MCO(R) will launch a series of promotional programmes for the brand building of SEPD, such as producing a theme song and organising promotional sales. It will also make use of the new Information and Exhibition Centre in Mongkok for displaying and promoting the products/services of PWDs, and those businesses funded under the 3E’s Project.

A total sum of \$50 million was granted for the operation of the 3E's Project and, as at February 2009, about \$29 million (i.e. 58%) of the fund has been allocated to NGOs for running 50 small businesses.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Why is it that the estimated number of groups and programmes provided by Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) has dropped by a further 12% in 2009-10? What are the respective provisions for IFSCs run by the government sector and the subvented sector in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The estimated number of groups and programmes provided by IFSCs in 2008-09 is a projection based on the actual number of groups and programmes organised in the first two quarters of 2008-09, whereas the estimated number in 2009-10 is the aggregate of the output indicators as stipulated in the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs). IFSCs may, as in previous years, organise more groups and programmes than the output level as required in the FSAs according to service needs.

The provision for IFSCs run by the government and subvented welfare non-governmental organisations in 2009-10 is \$500.9 million and \$197.9 million respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the provision for and the estimated number of service users of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) in 2009-10? How many organisations will take part in the project and in what districts are those organisations located?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the pilot NSCCP. The provision is for a period of three years starting from 2008-09, covering a total of 11 projects operated by 11 different organisations, with one project each in Tung Chung, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Chung, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long, Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung, Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong, Tai Po/North, Sha Tin, and Eastern/Wan Chai. The annual allocation for each project is \$1.27 million. Together, the 11 projects will provide at least 286 home-based child care places and 154 centre-based care group places.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the concrete measures to prevent and combat domestic violence in 2009-10? What is the provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides a wide range of preventive, supportive and specialised services to support victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services are provided through Integrated Family Service Centres/Integrated Services Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs), Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs), Family Support Networking Teams, Refuge Centres for Women, Family Crisis Support Centre, Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre, residential care placements for children and child care centres, etc.

To facilitate intervention at an earlier stage, various preventive measures will continue to be taken to identify the vulnerable families and provide assistance as early as possible before their problems escalate into more serious incidents, including the continued implementation of the Family Support Programme, Comprehensive Child Development Service and the pilot project on Child Fatality Review. SWD will also sustain its territory-wide publicity and district-based programmes on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence” to enhance public awareness of the need to strengthen families and prevent domestic violence.

In 2009-10, the total estimated provision for family and child welfare services is \$1,785.3 million. Of this, additional recurrent funding of \$24.5 million will be provided to further strengthen direct support to victims of domestic violence and families in need, including strengthening the manpower of FCPSUs and CPUs, continuing the implementation and further development of the batterer intervention programme, and enhancing support for various refuge and crisis centres.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Estimate that an additional funding of \$25 million will be provided to increase the number of social workers and clinical psychologists dealing with domestic violence cases. Under this Programme, only two additional clinical psychologists but no additional social workers will be provided. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists will be provided to the Family and Child Protective Services Units and Clinical Psychology Units of the Social Welfare Department respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence, and further develop the batterer intervention programme.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has not proposed to increase the manpower for various family support services or to set up more service centres. Are there any statistics which can prove that all service units have more than enough manpower? Considering that family relationships are becoming more strained and complicated, could SWD ensure that the existing manpower is sufficient to cope with family cases?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : The Administration has been monitoring closely the need for family support services and has increased the manpower for such services where necessary. The number of social workers in Integrated Family Service Centres has increased from around 900 in 2004-05 to around 1 010 in 2008-09. In 2009-10, to further strengthen support for families in need and those facing domestic violence, we will provide additional recurrent resources of \$24.5 million to:

- (a) increase the number of social workers and clinical psychologists dealing with domestic violence cases in the Family and Child Protective Services Units and Clinical Psychology Units of SWD respectively;
- (b) strengthen clinical support and enhance the intake and referral mechanism of the Refuge Centres for Women;
- (c) provide recurrent funding to the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre currently funded by the Lotteries Fund on a time-limited basis;
- (d) strengthen professional support for the Family Crisis Support Centre;
- (e) extend the service of the Suicide Crisis Intervention Centre to include crisis intervention for survivors of suicide; and
- (f) strengthen support to the New Comers Ward for the caring of children.

We will continue to keep in view the workload and manpower situation of various support services and explore improvement measures where necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What achievements have been made by the pilot project on Child Fatality Review up to now?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : In February 2008, the Social Welfare Department launched the two-year pilot project to review cases of children who died of non-natural causes. The objective of the project is to examine the relevant child death cases with a view to coming up with suggestions for improving the current child protection and child welfare services to prevent future cases. Through identifying the patterns and trends of these cases and examining the related practice and service issues, it is hoped that the pilot project can help to identify areas for improvements to related services and systems and enhancement to multi-disciplinary cooperation.

A Review Panel has been set up for the project and in 2008-09 it has reviewed the child death cases captured by the Coroners' Court in 2006. An annual report will be published in the third quarter of 2009 to set out the findings and recommendations of the Review Panel.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients joined the Support for Self-reliance (SFS) Scheme, the New Dawn (ND) Project and the Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP) in 2008-09? At what percentages of the total number of CSSA recipients? How many of them have left the CSSA net? What were the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : Information on the SFS Scheme, the Enhanced ND Project and My STEP in 2008-09 is provided as follows:

- (a) As at end-January 2009, there were 34 786 participants in the SFS Scheme, representing 65.6% of the total number of CSSA employable adults. During the period from 1 April 2008 to end-January 2009, 701 participants of the SFS Scheme had left the CSSA net as a result of taking up paid employment. The estimated expenditure for the SFS Scheme in 2008-09 is \$38.4 million.
- (b) Up to end-January 2009, there were a total of 5 994 participants in the Enhanced ND Project, representing 27.1% of the total number of potential participants of the project, i.e. single parents and child carers who were on CSSA with their youngest child aged 12 to 14. During the period from 1 April 2008 to end-January 2009, 85 participants had left the CSSA net as a result of taking up paid employment. The estimated expenditure for the Enhanced ND Project in 2008-09 is \$13.5 million.
- (c) As at end-January 2009, there were 459 participants in My STEP, representing 9.2% of the total number of CSSA recipients aged 15-29 participating in the SFS Scheme. During the period from 1 April 2008 to end-January 2009, 34 participants had left the CSSA net as a result of taking up paid employment. The estimated expenditure for My STEP in 2008-09 is \$4.6 million.

Resources for administering the employment assistance projects are deployed within the Social Welfare Department. There is no separate estimate on the expenditure.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What is the estimated number of people who will be required to join the employment assistance projects in 2009-10? How will the Social Welfare Department (SWD) monitor the performance of operating units and formulate guidelines for them to meet targets?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : It is estimated that a monthly average of 39 500 Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients will participate in the employment assistance projects, including the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme, the Enhanced New Dawn Project and the Special Training and Enhancement Programme, in 2009-10.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) operating the employment assistance projects are required to achieve performance standards and comply with the service requirements laid down by SWD. SWD assists the operating NGOs to deliver the services in compliance with the requirements through issuing operational guidelines, organising briefing sessions and conducting monitoring visits.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)223

Question Serial No.

1983

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please inform this Committee of the cost of the evaluation study on the New Dawn (ND) Project and the date for publishing the findings.

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : The total cost of the evaluation study is \$1.25 million. It is expected to be completed by mid-2009.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The press recently reported that the number of fraudulent cases on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance was rising. In this connection, the Social Welfare Department will enhance the training for social security staff. Please provide information on the major training subjects, the number of staff to be trained and the expenditure involved in providing the training.

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply : In order to prevent abuse in using social security benefits, we have been enhancing the training for social security staff to equip them with necessary knowledge and skills on investigation and verification. The training programmes cover areas such as legal and professional knowledge as well as communication and customer service skills. The estimated expenditure on training specifically related to fraud and abuse prevention is \$0.3 million in 2009-10, providing 1 200 training places for social security staff.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10” that more places for day training, vocational rehabilitation, pre-school and residential services for persons with disabilities will be provided. Would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of places provided under each of the above services from 2006-07 to 2008-09;
- (b) the estimated expenditure for each of the above services; and
- (c) the number of applicants waitlisting for each of the above services and the average waiting time?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : (a) Provisions/planned provisions for new places for 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as follows:

Type of Service	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
<i>Day Training Service</i>			
Day Activity Centre	0	51	120
<i>Vocational Rehabilitation Services</i>			
Sheltered Workshop ^{Note 1}	30	-160 ^{Note 1}	0
Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre	35	218 ^{Note 1}	276
Supported Employment ^{Note 1}	0	0	0
<i>Pre-school Rehabilitation Services</i>			
Early Education and Training Centre	88	97	44
Special Child Care Centre	105	45	50
Integrated Programme in Kindergarten cum Child Care Centre ^{Note 2}	0	0	0
<i>Residential Services</i>			
Hostel for Moderately Mentally Handicapped Persons	10	0	124
Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons	0	51	118

Care and Attention Home for the Severely Disabled	60	0	92
Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons	0	0	67
Supported Hostel	2	61	30
Small Group Home (Mildly Mentally Handicapped Children)	0	0	8
Residential Special Child Care Centre	8	0	0
Long Stay Care Home ^{Note 3}	0	0	0
Halfway House ^{Note 3}	0	0	0
Care-and-Attention Home for the Aged Blind ^{Note 4}	0	0	0

Note 1: A centre with 160 sheltered workshop places was converted into an integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre in 2007-08. Additional provisions for supported employment and sheltered workshop have been provided under the integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre.

Note 2: Service demand for Integrated Programme in Kindergarten cum Child Care Centre was by and large met in the past few years.

Note 3: A total of 427 places of Long Stay Care Home and 160 places of Halfway House were provided in 2004-05 and 2005-06. An additional 100 places of Long Stay Care Home will also be provided in 2009-10.

Note 4: The service demand for Care-and-Attention Home for the Aged Blind is by and large being met.

(b) & (c) Estimated financial provisions for the above services in 2009-10, their waiting lists as at December 2008 and average waiting time in 2007-08 are as follows:

Type of Service	2009-10 Estimated Provision (\$ million)	Waiting List (as at December 2008)	Average Waiting Time 2007-08 (months)
<i>Day Training Service</i>			
Day Activity Centre	340.5	913	21.6
<i>Vocational Rehabilitation Services</i>			
Sheltered Workshop	233.0	2 402	15.6
Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre	127.7	- Note 5	-
Supported Employment	43.3	159	2.4
<i>Pre-school Rehabilitation Services</i>			
Early Education and Training Centre	127.1	1 232	8.5
Special Child Care Centre	214.2	668	11.9
Integrated Programme in Kindergarten cum Child Care Centre	88.1	922	8.3

<i>Residential Services</i>			
Hostel for Moderately Mentally Handicapped Persons	146.8	1 351	48.0
Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons	416.9	1 892	78.0
Care and Attention Home for the Severely Disabled	139.9	377	38.4
Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons	80.4	414	89.6
Supported Hostel	29.6	784	20.4
Small Group Home (Mildly Mentally Handicapped Children)	5.0	85	14.3
Residential Special Child Care Centre	19.7	57	7.9
Long Stay Care Home	167.4	726	34
Halfway House	153.1	633	4.6
Care and Attention Home for the Aged Blind	96.7	47	6.2

Note 5: Waiting lists for sheltered workshop and supported employment are applicable to integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre which does not have a separate waiting list.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the social welfare services (grants), would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many organisations received the grants in each of the years from 2006-07 to 2008-09?
- (b) What are the names of the subvented organisations receiving the grants in 2008-09? How many staff are employed by respective organisations? What is the percentage of staff remuneration in the expenditure of respective organisations?
- (c) Apart from staff cost, what other areas do the grants of the respective organisations cover?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

- Reply :
- (a) The number of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) receiving recurrent subventions from the Social Welfare Department (SWD) was 175 in 2006-07 to 2007-08, and 173 in 2008-09 (as at 1 April of the respective years).
 - (b) The NGOs receiving SWD's subventions as at 1 April 2008 are listed at the Annex. Under the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) subvention system, SWD no longer imposes input controls on the NGOs' staffing structures, levels of pay and individual items of expenditure. The NGOs have the flexibility to deploy their LSG, insofar as the expenses are within the confines of the Funding and Service Agreements. Therefore, SWD does not have information on the number of staff employed by subvented NGOs and the percentage of staff remuneration in the respective NGOs' expenditure.

- (c) Apart from personal emoluments which include salaries and provident funds, subventions for NGOs also cover Other Charges and Rent and Rates.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

List of NGOs Receiving Subventions from SWD (as at 1 April 2008)
(In Alphabetical Order of NGO Name)

Organisation

1. Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service Centre
2. ABM Hong Kong Swatow Baptist Church Community Service Association Limited, The
3. Against Child Abuse Ltd
4. Agency for Volunteer Service
5. Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital
6. Alice Lan and Vera Shen Education Fund Limited
7. Asbury Methodist Social Service
8. Asia Women's League Limited
9. Asian Outreach Hong Kong Limited
10. Association for Engineering & Medical Volunteer Services
11. Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims Limited
12. Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (HK) Limited
13. Association of Evangelical Free Churches of Hong Kong (The)
14. Baptist Convention of Hong Kong (The)
15. Baptist Mid-Missions
16. Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service
17. Barnabas Charitable Service Association Limited (The)
18. Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (The)
19. Boys' Brigade, Hong Kong (The)
20. Caritas - Hong Kong
21. Cheung Chau Rural Committee Integrated Youth Centre
22. Cheung Sha Wan Kai Fong Welfare Association Lam Tam Yin Wah Day Nursery
23. Chi Lin Nunnery
24. Child Development Centre (The)
25. China Peniel Missionary Society Incorporation
26. Chinese Evangelical Zion Church Limited
27. Chinese Rhenish Church Hong Kong Synod (The)
28. Chinese Young Men's Christian Association of Hong Kong

29. Ching Chung Taoist Association of Hong Kong Limited
30. Christian & Missionary Alliance Church Union Hong Kong Limited
31. Christian Concern for the Homeless Association
32. Christian Family Service Centre
33. Christian Nationals' Evangelism Commission Aged People Centre
34. Christian New Being Fellowship Limited (The)
35. Chuk Lam Ming Tong Limited
36. Chung Shak Hei (Cheung Chau) Home for the Aged Limited
37. Chung Sing Benevolent Society
38. Church of United Brethren in Christ Hong Kong Limited (The)
39. Ebenezer School and Home for the Visually Impaired
40. ELCHK, Social Service Head Office
41. Emmanuel Church
42. Endeavourers Hong Kong (The)
43. Evangelical Free Church of China - Evangel Children's Home
44. Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (The)
45. Five Districts Business Welfare Association
46. Free Methodist Church of Hong Kong (The)
47. Fu Hong Society
48. Fung Kai Public School
49. Fung Ying Seen Koon
50. Hans Andersen Club
51. Harmony House Limited
52. Haven of Hope Christian Service
53. Heep Hong Society
54. Helping Hand
55. Heung Hoi Ching Kok Lin Association
56. Hong Chi Association
57. Hong Kong and Kowloon Kaifong Women's Association
58. Hong Kong and Macau Lutheran Church
59. Hong Kong and Macau Regional Centre of the World Fellowship of Buddhists Limited
60. Hong Kong Blind Union
61. Hong Kong Bodhi Siksa Society Limited (The)
62. Hong Kong Buddhist Association (The)

63. Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council (The)
64. Hong Kong Children and Youth Services
65. Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club
66. Hong Kong Chiu Chow Po Hing Buddhism Association Limited
67. Hong Kong Christian Mutual Improvement Society
68. Hong Kong Christian Service
69. Hong Kong Council of Early Childhood Education and Services Limited
70. Hong Kong Council of Social Service (The)
71. Hong Kong Council of the Church of Christ in China (The)
72. Hong Kong Down Syndrome Association (The)
73. Hong Kong Evangelical Church Social Service Limited
74. Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
75. Hong Kong Federation of Handicapped Youth
76. Hong Kong Federation of the Blind
77. Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (The)
78. Hong Kong Juvenile Care Centre
79. Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, the Lutheran Church - Hong Kong Synod Limited
80. Hong Kong Mutual Encouragement Association Limited
81. Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association for the Physically Disabled
82. Hong Kong PHAB Association
83. Hong Kong Playground Association
84. Hong Kong Red Cross
85. Hong Kong Rehabilitation Power
86. Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council
87. Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation (The)
88. Hong Kong Society for the Aged (The)
89. Hong Kong Society for the Blind (The)
90. Hong Kong Society for the Deaf (The)
91. Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children
92. Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped
93. Hong Kong Student Aid Society
94. Hong Kong Tuberculosis, Chest and Heart Diseases Association (The)
95. Hong Kong West Point Baptist Church
96. Hong Kong Women Foundation Limited

97. Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association
98. Hong Kong-Macao Conference of Seventh - Day Adventists
99. Hop Yat Church, the Church of Christ in China
100. Hospital Authority
101. International Buddhist Progress Society (Hong Kong) Ltd
102. International Church of the Foursquare Gospel Hong Kong District Limited
103. International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
104. International Women's League
105. Jordan Valley Kaifong Welfare Association
106. Kiangsu Chekiang and Shanghai Residents (Hong Kong) Association
107. Kowloon City Baptist Church
108. Kowloon Women's Welfare Club (The)
109. Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service
110. Lam Tin Estate Kai Fong Welfare Association Limited (The)
111. Light and Love Home Limited
112. Lok Chi Association Limited
113. Lok Sin Tong Benevolent Society, Kowloon (The)
114. Lutheran Philip House Limited
115. Mental Health Association of Hong Kong (The)
116. Methodist Centre
117. Methodist Epworth Village Community Centre
118. Mission Covenant Church Limited (The)
119. Mongkok Kai-Fong Association Limited (The)
120. Mother Superior of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd of Angers at Hong Kong (The)
121. Mother's Choice
122. Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council (The)
123. Nesbitt Centre Limited (The)
124. New Kowloon Women Association Limited
125. New Life Church of Christ Hong Kong Limited
126. New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
127. New Territories Women and Juveniles Welfare Association Limited (The)
128. Operation Dawn Limited (The)
129. Pentecostal Church of Hong Kong
130. Po Leung Kuk

131. Pok Oi Hospital
132. Project Care
133. Richmond Fellowship of Hong Kong
134. S.K.H. St. Simon's Social Services
135. Sai Kung District Community Centre
136. Salvation Army (The)
137. Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong (The)
138. Scout Association of Hong Kong
139. Shamshuipo Kai Fong Welfare Advancement Association
140. Sheng Kung Hui St. Christopher's Home Limited
141. Sik Sik Yuen
142. Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
143. Society for Community Organization
144. Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (The)
145. Society of Boys' Centres
146. Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong (The)
147. Society of St. Vincent de Paul
148. Spastics Association of Hong Kong (The)
149. St. James' Settlement
150. St. Matthias' Church Nursery School
151. Stewards Limited
152. Suen Mei Speech and Hearing Centre
153. Superioress of the Sisters of the Precious Blood (The)
154. Tai Hang Residents' Welfare Association
155. Tsim Sha Tsui District Kaifong Welfare Association
156. Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Social Service Company Ltd (The)
157. Tuen Mun Yuk Chi Resource Centre Limited
158. Tung Lum Nien Fah Tong Limited
159. Tung Sin Tan Home for the Aged
160. Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
161. United Christian Nethersole Community Health Service
162. Wai Ji Christian Service
163. Watchdog Limited
164. Women's Welfare Club (Eastern District) Hong Kong (The)
165. Women's Welfare Club, Western District Hong Kong

166. Yan Chai Hospital
167. Yan Oi Tong
168. Yan Tin Baptist Church
169. Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service
170. Youth Outreach
171. Yuen Long Town Hall Management Committee Limited
172. Yuen Yuen Institute (The)
173. Zion Social Service Limited

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : All

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) subvention system, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) In 2008-09, what is the estimated expenditure of the subvented staff remuneration?
- (b) Does the Administration know the number of subvented organisations which fail to use all the subvention designated for staff remuneration on the staff remuneration? If yes, what are the number of such subvented organisations and their names? What are the number of staff and the amount of subvention involved? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) In 2008-09, among the additional subventions allocated to the subvented organisations arising from the 2008-09 civil service pay adjustment, how much has not been spent on the staff remuneration? What is the percentage of staff concerned out of the total number of subvented staff?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : (a) The Administration does not have such breakdown. Under the LSG subvention system, the Social Welfare Department will not impose input controls on the subvented non-governmental organisations' (NGOs) staffing structures and levels of pay, etc.

- (b) & (c) The information requested is not available because under the LSG subvention system, NGOs have the flexibility to deploy their LSG, including the supplementary provision arising from civil service pay

adjustment, to meet staffing and other operating expenses, insofar as the expenses are within the confines of the Funding and Service Agreements.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards the pilot Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP), would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) what were the number of beneficiaries in 18 Districts and the expenditure involved for this project in 2008-09?
- (b) was there any eligible person who cannot benefit from the project in 2008-09? If yes, what is the number and what are the reasons?
- (c) how many places will be provided in 2009-10? What are their distribution by district and their percentages over the number of eligible persons in each district?
- (d) given that the project is carried out on a trial basis, when will the Administration review the project and when will the review be completed?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

- Reply :
- (a) The NSCCP will have been fully rolled out by the end of 2008-09, covering all the administrative districts of the Social Welfare Department (SWD). It will provide at least 286 home-based child care places and 154 centre-based care group places in total, and the places will be evenly distributed among the districts. The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the NSCCP for a period of three years starting from 2008-09. The annual allocation for each project is \$1.27 million.
 - (b) SWD is not aware of any needy children who were unable to receive NSCCP service.

- (c) The NSCCP will have been fully rolled out by the end of 2008-09. The minimum number of places to be provided and their distribution by district will remain unchanged in 2009-10. Service operators may increase the number of home-based child care places flexibly if there is a service demand. We have not estimated the number of places to be provided in 2009-10 as a percentage of the number of eligible persons in each district as eligibility rate does not represent the level of service demand.
- (d) All projects will be in operation until the end of March 2011. A review of the projects will be conducted in late 2010 and is expected to be completed before the end of March 2011.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under this Programme, the Administration plans to increase the service provision for day foster care service. In this connection, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following?

- (a) what was the number of day foster care places provided in the 18 Districts in 2008-09 and their percentages over the number of eligible persons in each district? What is the expenditure incurred in running this service in each district?
- (b) what are the additional number of places to be provided in 2009-10 and their distribution in each district? What is the additional expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

- Reply :
- (a) In 2008-09, there are 50 day foster care places across the territory. The provision for the service in 2008-09 (Revised Estimate) is \$2.7 million. All children aged 10 or below who are at risk of residential care and whose parents may take care of them in the evening are eligible for day foster care service. We have not estimated the number of places provided in 2008-09 as a percentage of the number of eligible persons in each district as eligibility rate does not represent the level of service demand.
 - (b) In 2008, the average utilisation rate of the service was 73.6%, indicating that there is no shortage of day foster care places at present. The Administration therefore has no plan to provide additional places in 2009-10. The provision for the service in 2009-10 is \$2.8 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding Old Age Allowance (OAA), would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the numbers of recipients of Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) and Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) respectively in various districts of the New Territories West (including Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Islands), and the expenditures involved from 2006-07 to 2008-09;
- (b) the estimated numbers of recipients of NOAA and HOAA respectively in various districts of the New Territories West and the estimated expenditure involved in 2009-10;
- (c) the numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents who are aged 65 to 69 or aged 70 or above in various districts of the New Territories West in 2008; and
- (d) the numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents in public housing estates of the New Territories West, and the numbers of persons and households receiving OAA in public housing estates in 2008.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : (a) The numbers of recipients of NOAA and HOAA in the districts of the New Territories West from 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as below:

District#	Number of NOAA recipients in the New Territories West		
	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
Kwai Tsing	8 420	8 105	7 804
Tsuen Wan	3 096	2 882	2 784
Tuen Mun	4 280	4 093	4 240
Yuen Long	3 359	3 136	3 247

	Number of HOAA recipients in the New Territories West		
District#	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
Kwai Tsing	28 343	29 942	29 805
Tsuen Wan	14 557	15 292	16 080
Tuen Mun	14 931	15 777	16 553
Yuen Long	16 612	17 604	18 453

The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency. We do not keep separate records of the total number of OAA recipients living in the Islands District as those cases are administered along with other OAA cases in the Central and Western / Islands Social Security Field Unit.

We do not have separate records on expenditures on a district basis.

- (b) We do not have separate estimates of the numbers of NOAA and HOAA recipients and the expenditure involved in 2009-10 on a district basis.
- (c) The numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents who are aged 65 to 69 or aged 70 or above in the districts of the New Territories West in 2007 (most updated figures) are as below:

District	Elderly persons		Household with elderly residents	
	65 - 69	70+	65 - 69	70+
Kwai Tsing	21 700	43 000	14 000	31 900
Tsuen Wan	9 100	21 900	7 700	17 600
Tuen Mun	12 500	27 500	14 100	32 700
Yuen Long	12 900	31 600	14 700	33 700
Islands	2 800	8 600	3 400	9 100

- (d) As at end-December 2008 (most updated figures), the number of elderly persons aged 60 or above living in public housing estates of the New Territories West was 119 747. As at end-February 2009, the number of OAA recipients living in public housing estates of the New Territories West was 47 509. We do not have records of households with elderly residents or households with OAA recipients in public housing estates of the New Territories West.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding Disability Allowance (DA), would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of DA recipients in each district of the New Territories West and the annual expenditure involved from 2006-07 to 2008-09;
- (b) the estimated number of DA recipients in the districts of the New Territories West and the estimated expenditure involved in 2009-10; and
- (c) the number of DA recipients living in public housing estates of the New Territories West and the expenditure involved in 2008?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : (a) The number of DA recipients in each district of the New Territories West from 2006-07 to 2008-09 is as below:

District#	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
Kwai Tsing	8 859	9 387	9 234
Tsuen Wan	4 164	4 297	4 597
Tuen Mun	7 166	7 470	7 859
Yuen Long	5 981	6 363	6 675

The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency. We do not keep separate records of the total number of DA recipients living in the Islands District as those cases are administered along with other DA cases in the Central and Western / Islands Social Security Field Unit.

We do not keep separate records of the annual expenditure on a district basis.

- (b) We do not have separate estimates on the number of recipients on DA and the expenditure involved in 2009-10 on a district basis.

- (c) As at end-February 2009, there were 12 771 DA recipients who were living in public housing estates of the New Territories West. We do not keep separate records of expenditure involved for these recipients.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Concerning the continued running of the trial employment assistance projects for the employable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients, including Enhanced Community Work Project, Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP), Enhanced New Dawn (ND) Project, Intensive Employment Assistance Projects (IEAPs) and District Employment Assistance Trial (DEAT) Projects, would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the number of participants for each of the above projects in 2008-09? Which districts did the participants come from? What was the expenditure involved for running the above projects?
- (b) What are the estimated number of participants for each of the above projects in 2009-10? How many places will be provided for these projects in each district? What are the estimated expenditure for running the above projects?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : (a) In 2008-09, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has continued to run the following trial employment assistance projects for CSSA able-bodied unemployed recipients.

- (i) The Extended Community Work Experience and Training Programme has been launched in Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim Mong districts from April 2007 to March 2009. Up to end-January 2009, there were 756 participants. The revised estimated expenditure in 2008-09 is \$2.1 million.
- (ii) Four projects of My STEP have been launched from October 2007 to September 2009 in Tin Shui Wai and Yuen Long, Tuen Mun and Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing, Tai Po/North and Shatin, Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung districts. Up to end-January 2009, there were 588 participants. The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 is \$4.6 million.

- (iii) The Enhanced ND Project has been launched in all districts throughout the territory from October 2007 to March 2010. Up to end-January 2009, there were 5 994 participants. The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 is \$13.5 million.
- (iv) The IEAPs were in operation from October 2003 to September 2008. The IEAPs provided employment assistance services in all districts throughout the territory. There were 54 258 participants. The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 is \$17 million. SWD has further launched the three-year Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme (IEAS) in October 2008. Under IEAS, non-governmental organisations have been commissioned to operate 60 employment assistance projects throughout the territory to provide employment assistance services for all able-bodied unemployed CSSA recipients, so as to assist them to secure full-time paid employment and move towards self-reliance. The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 is \$28.9 million.
- (v) The DEAT Projects were in operation from October 2006 to September 2008. The project participants came from Tin Shui Wai, Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing and Tung Chung districts. There were 379 participants. The estimated expenditure in 2008-09 is \$1.9 million.
- (b) In 2009-10, around 440 long-term CSSA unemployed youths aged 15 to 29 will continue receiving employment assistance services in My STEP. The estimated expenditure for running My STEP in 2009-10 is \$3.3 million. Besides, an estimated monthly average of 4 700 participants will participate in the Enhanced ND project, which helps all single parents and child carers who were on CSSA with their youngest child aged 12 to 14 build up their capacity to work, integrate into society and move to self-reliance through engagement in paid employment. The estimated expenditure for running the Enhanced ND Project in 2009-10 is \$13.1 million.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)233

Question Serial No.

1974

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, what are the ages of the CSSA recipients who are living in public housing estates over the territory (please provide a breakdown by each public housing estate)? What are the CSSA expenditure involved by public housing estate?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : We do not have separate records on the ages of the CSSA recipients who are living in public housing estates and the expenditure involved by public housing estates.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What are the respective numbers of places provided by child care centres (CCCs) aided by or under the administration of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in the 18 Districts of Hong Kong? Would new towns with a dense population of young people such as Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai be given priority when additional child care places are provided? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. Wong Kwok-hing

Reply : The numbers of places of aided standalone CCCs available in the 11 administrative districts of SWD, as at end of February 2009, are as follows:

SWD District	Number of Places in Aided Standalone CCCs (for children aged 0-3)
Eastern/Wan Chai	88
Central/Western/Southern & Islands	40
Kwun Tong	0
Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung	0
Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong	144
Sham Shui Po	62
Sha Tin	70
Tai Po/North	48
Yuen Long	64
Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing	102
Tuen Mun	64
Total	682

Besides standalone CCCs, kindergarten-cum-child care centres (KG-cum-CCCs) under the administration of the Education Bureau also provide child care services for children aged under six.

The Administration has been monitoring closely the demand for child care services in different districts, including new towns like Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai, and has strengthened the services as appropriate. At present, there are 398 and 2 166 standalone CCC or KG-cum-CCC places in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai respectively. Two out of the 11 pilot Neighbourhood Support Child Care Projects are also being implemented in the two districts. We will continue to keep in view the service demand and will consider further strengthening the services in districts with a high demand if necessary.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Social Welfare Department set up a new Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre (ICYSC) in Tin Shui Wai in 2008. What is the location of the centre? How many types of services are provided for young people by the centre? What are the numbers of service users for each type of service? What was the expenditure for each type of service in 2008-09?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : The new ICYSC is in Tin Ching Estate, Tin Shui Wai. It provides a wide range of comprehensive services including guidance and counselling services, supportive services for young people in disadvantaged circumstances, socialisation programmes and programmes for the development of social responsibility and competence.

As the new ICYSC has just commenced operation in early March 2009, the service utilisation figures are not yet available. We have no information on the ICYSC's expenditure by service type as the operating NGO is subvented under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system and can flexibly deploy resources among the ICYSC's services to meet the actual service demand.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards the services for elders, would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the respective population aged between 60 to 64 and 65 or above in Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Islands Districts?
- (b) the number of places provided by District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs), Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs), Social Centres for the Elderly, Day Care Centres for the Elderly, Self-Care (S/C) Hostels, Homes for the Aged (H/A), Care-and-Attention (C&A) Homes, Nursing Homes (NH), private Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and contract homes in the above districts?
- (c) the number of elders waitlisting for these residential and centre-based services in the above districts?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : (a) The breakdown of elderly population by age and by district is as follows:

District \ Age	60-64	65 or above
	Kwai Tsing	25 800
Tsuen Wan	12 400	31 000
Tuen Mun	17 800	40 000
Yuen Long	16 300	44 600
Islands	3 800	11 500

Source: General Household Survey (2007) conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

- (b) The number of places provided by the various types of elderly services units (position as at end-March 2009) is as follows:

District	Service Types								
	Number of DECCs (Note ¹)	Number of NECs (Note ¹)	Number of Social Centres for the Elderly (Note ¹)	Day Care Places	S/C Hostel Places	H/A Places	C & A Places (Note ²)	NH Places (Note ²)	EBPS Places
Kwai Tsing	2	11	4	149	0	75	1 727 (51)	119 (119)	636
Tsuen Wan	1	5	3	44	0	0	505	316	624
Tuen Mun	2	4	4	110	0	0	876	216	349
Yuen Long	2	4	4	110	0	0	931 (23)	50 (50)	742
Islands	1	3	1	40	0	67	317	0	27

Note¹: There is no fixed number of service places for DECCs, NECs and Social Centres for the Elderly.

Note²: Figures in brackets denote the provision in contract homes

- (c) For subsidised residential care services, all applications are managed under the Central Waiting List for Subsidised Long Term Care Services on a territory-wide basis with no separate waiting list for individual districts. The number of waitlisted cases by type of places is as follows:

Type of services	Number of waitlisted cases (as at end-February 2009)
C&A places	17 966
NH places	6 303
S/C hostel and H/A places	Not applicable as the Social Welfare Department has ceased to accept new applications for placement in S/C hostel and H/A since 1 January 2003.

For day care services, as at end-February 2009, the numbers of waitlisted cases in Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Islands districts were 69, 70, 21, 38 and 0 respectively.

There is no waiting list nor waiting time for elderly centre services provided by DECCs, NECs and Social Centres for the Elderly.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of CSSA households and recipients by nature of cases (including old age, disability, ill health, single parent, unemployment and new arrivals) and the respective expenditure involved by nature of cases from 2006-07 to 2008-09; and
- (b) the number of CSSA recipients by nature of cases in the 18 Districts of the territory.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : The number of (a) CSSA cases, CSSA recipients and expenditure by nature of cases and (b) CSSA recipients by nature of cases and by geographical districts for 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as follows :

- (a) The average number of CSSA cases, CSSA recipients and the expenditure by nature of cases from 2006-07 to 2008-09.

Nature of case	2006-07 Actual		
	Average number of cases	Average number of recipients	Expenditure (\$ million)
Old Age	147 802	201 908	8,282
Permanent Disability	17 227	27 369	997
Ill Health	22 714	46 779	1,589
Single Parent	36 848	99 023	3,137
Low Earnings	16 759	65 201	1,277
Unemployment	32 205	77 682	2,046
Others	5 149	8 926	309
Total	278 703	526 889	17,638

Note: Individual figures may not add up to respective totals due to rounding.

Nature of case	2007-08 Actual		
	Average number of cases	Average number of recipients	Expenditure [#] (\$ million)
Old Age	147 748	200 562	8,764
Permanent Disability	17 232	26 785	1,043
Ill Health	22 862	45 694	1,650
Single Parent	35 572	94 746	3,131
Low Earnings	15 928	61 335	1,288
Unemployment	28 227	65 650	1,836
Others	5 356	9 097	334
Total	272 926	503 868	18,045

Notes: Individual figures may not add up to respective totals due to rounding.

Expenditure includes one additional month of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

Nature of case	2008-09 Revised Estimate		
	Average number of cases	Average number of recipients	Expenditure [#] (\$ million)
Old Age	147 100	197 700	9,533
Permanent Disability	17 200	26 200	1,162
Ill Health	23 000	44 000	1,788
Single Parent	34 400	90 000	3,153
Low Earnings	14 900	56 500	1,186
Unemployment	27 900	57 300	1,892
Others	5 600	9 400	367
Total	270 100	481 100	19,081

Note: # Expenditure (Revised Estimate) includes two additional months of standard rate payments for CSSA recipients.

(b) The number of CSSA recipients by nature of cases and by geographical districts from 2006-07 to 2008-09.

Geographical district *	Case nature as at end-March 2007							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central and Western	2 662	275	438	756	454	467	98	5 150
Eastern	10 842	1 701	1 922	4 071	2 705	2 204	432	23 877
Islands	2 459	505	1 267	2 500	2 450	2 538	311	12 030
Kowloon City	10 202	983	1 851	3 916	2 010	2 262	399	21 623
Kwai Tsing	20 014	3 379	4 171	8 808	8 305	8 359	942	53 978
Kwun Tong	28 094	2 934	4 644	10 799	8 465	8 649	931	64 516
North	9 459	903	2 876	5 719	2 606	3 094	632	25 289
Sai Kung	5 770	1 408	2 544	4 659	4 121	2 964	365	21 831
Sha Tin	12 991	2 083	4 121	6 463	4 089	4 361	659	34 767
Sham Shui Po	17 978	1 781	3 213	7 323	4 851	6 208	713	42 067
Southern	6 932	1 440	1 040	2 236	1 774	562	177	14 161
Tai Po	7 777	821	1 998	3 898	1 624	2 279	383	18 780
Tsuen Wan	6 410	713	1 061	3 115	1 629	2 109	398	15 435
Tuen Mun	13 759	2 690	4 088	7 687	3 154	5 998	639	38 015
Wan Chai	1 863	126	271	442	264	447	122	3 535
Wong Tai Sin	18 039	2 204	3 448	7 569	6 133	4 952	598	42 943
Yau Tsim Mong	6 574	631	1 308	3 202	1 385	3 327	351	16 778
Yuen Long	16 591	2 565	6 000	14 274	8 156	11 416	964	59 966
Total	198 416	27 142	46 261	97 437	64 175	72 196	9 114	514 741

Notes: * The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

Geographical district *	Case nature as at end-March 2008							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central and Western	2 524	264	410	698	475	368	101	4 840
Eastern	10 672	1 586	1 820	3 909	2 569	1 695	420	22 671
Islands	2 442	519	1 125	2 488	2 159	2 084	288	11 105
Kowloon City	10 025	922	1 744	3 830	1 767	2 022	359	20 669
Kwai Tsing	19 906	3 261	4 231	8 671	7 475	6 917	927	51 388
Kwun Tong	27 558	2 797	4 509	10 306	8 064	7 242	964	61 440
North	9 291	926	2 678	5 412	2 411	2 662	612	23 992
Sai Kung	5 732	1 351	2 538	4 369	3 486	2 237	301	20 014
Sha Tin	12 774	2 156	3 880	6 108	3 580	3 322	601	32 421
Sham Shui Po	17 869	1 656	3 266	7 144	4 744	5 398	696	40 773
Southern	6 776	1 464	1 061	2 011	1 683	513	199	13 707
Tai Po	7 656	793	1 937	3 519	1 538	1 652	385	17 480
Tsuen Wan	6 363	653	1 063	2 934	1 432	1 632	405	14 482
Tuen Mun	14 027	2 821	3 981	7 083	2 895	4 969	698	36 474
Wan Chai	1 667	117	245	334	205	306	122	2 996
Wong Tai Sin	17 608	2 083	3 200	7 330	5 490	4 198	518	40 427
Yau Tsim Mong	6 405	561	1 311	2 882	1 491	2 919	432	16 001
Yuen Long	16 531	2 527	5 837	13 417	7 429	9 528	1 010	56 279
Total	195 826	26 457	44 836	92 445	58 893	59 664	9 038	487 159

Notes: * The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

Geographical district *	Case nature as at end-January 2009							
	Old age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single parent	Low earnings	Unemployment	Others	Total
Central and Western	2 466	292	367	615	467	366	65	4 638
Eastern	10 664	1 572	1 776	3 840	2 388	1 647	439	22 326
Islands	2 391	518	1 000	2 401	1 881	1 997	314	10 502
Kowloon City	9 593	896	1 693	3 542	1 604	1 982	405	19 715
Kwai Tsing	19 915	3 316	4 009	8 389	6 930	6 564	1 000	50 123
Kwun Tong	27 814	2 680	4 649	10 421	7 363	7 032	1 015	60 974
North	9 281	1 051	2 525	5 484	2 319	2 748	698	24 106
Sai Kung	5 539	1 259	2 322	4 149	2 948	2 092	338	18 647
Sha Tin	12 561	2 079	3 783	6 107	3 350	3 238	605	31 723
Sham Shui Po	17 602	1 664	3 331	6 752	4 285	5 364	713	39 711
Southern	6 697	1 501	1 020	1 769	1 467	575	238	13 267
Tai Po	7 474	709	1 831	3 064	1 299	1 508	346	16 231
Tsuen Wan	6 307	601	997	2 750	1 181	1 599	418	13 853
Tuen Mun	14 079	2 770	3 813	6 683	2 607	4 741	681	35 374
Wan Chai	1 541	92	208	297	205	278	122	2 743
Wong Tai Sin	17 282	1 984	3 178	6 934	4 932	3 830	525	38 665
Yau Tsim Mong	6 182	543	1 345	2 746	1 338	2 923	439	15 516
Yuen Long	16 613	2 657	5 643	13 118	6 686	9 231	1 107	55 055
Total	194 001	26 184	43 490	89 061	53 250	57 715	9 468	473 169

Notes: * The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)238

Question Serial No.

0871

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of households who are currently on CSSA living in each public housing estate over the territory and their percentages in the total number of households in that estate;
- (b) the number of CSSA recipients who are currently on CSSA living in each public housing estate over the territory and their percentages in the total number of tenants in that estate; and
- (c) the number of households on CSSA by nature of case (including old age, disability, ill health, single parent, low earnings, unemployment and new arrivals) in each public housing estate?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : Table 1: The number of CSSA households and recipients in each public housing estate as at end-December 2008.

Housing Estate	CSSA households	% of total household in public housing estate concerned	CSSA recipients	% of total population in public housing estate concerned
Ap Lei Chau	560	13%	1 184	9%
Bo Shek Mansion	66	25%	92	17%
Broadview Garden	31	7%	62	5%
Butterfly	1 277	25%	2 253	19%
Chak On	519	29%	904	21%
Cheung Ching	621	13%	1 436	10%
Cheung Fat	450	32%	769	21%
Cheung Hang	604	14%	1 190	8%

Cheung Hong	1 432	18%	2 769	12%
Cheung Kwai	60	12%	140	9%
Cheung On	510	34%	891	20%
Cheung Shan	171	11%	447	8%
Cheung Wah	787	34%	1 592	23%
Cheung Wang	1 037	25%	2 632	20%
Ching Ho	1 110	20%	2 801	16%
Cho Yiu Chuen	255	10%	465	6%
Choi Fai	185	14%	385	9%
Choi Ha	269	38%	436	27%
Choi Hung	1 447	20%	2 792	15%
Choi Ming Court	717	26%	1 904	20%
Choi Wan (I)	835	15%	1 951	10%
Choi Wan (II)	433	15%	997	11%
Choi Ying	807	22%	1 538	17%
Choi Yuen	1 262	25%	2 325	17%
Chuk Yuen (North)	642	43%	1 141	26%
Chuk Yuen (South)	1 506	26%	2 744	17%
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	134	13%	235	8%
Chun Shek	439	21%	781	13%
Chung On	692	26%	1 696	18%
Clague Garden	84	15%	165	11%
Easeful Court	74	15%	309	14%
Fortune	813	39%	1 248	25%
Fu Cheong	2 233	38%	4 177	25%
Fu Heng	849	40%	1 677	28%
Fu Shan	304	20%	553	13%
Fu Shin	812	30%	1 678	22%
Fu Tai	1 121	22%	3 344	17%
Fu Tung	207	13%	537	9%
Fuk Loi	537	17%	1 004	13%
Fung Tak	757	50%	1 177	36%
Fung Wah	143	36%	253	23%
Grandeur Terrace	1 006	25%	3 317	22%
Hau Tak	718	17%	1 519	11%
Healthy Village	133	11%	236	8%
Heng On	448	37%	931	25%
High Prosperity Terrace	83	10%	305	10%
Hin Keng	407	45%	830	28%
Hin Yiu	204	26%	421	21%
Hing Man	280	15%	647	10%
Hing Tin	184	37%	445	25%
Hing Tung	335	16%	644	9%

Hing Wah (I)	527	24%	1 111	15%
Hing Wah (II)	815	23%	1 444	17%
Ho Man Tin	1 118	24%	2 086	15%
Hoi Fu Court	967	35%	2 067	24%
Hoi Lai	922	19%	2 736	15%
Hong Tung	231	46%	328	36%
Hung Hom	300	38%	500	23%
Jat Min Chuen	477	13%	853	8%
Ka Fuk	461	23%	971	14%
Ka Wai Chuen	300	18%	508	11%
Kai Tin	531	23%	948	14%
Kai Yip	1 135	27%	1 892	19%
Kam Peng	48	24%	111	14%
Kin Ming	1 506	22%	3 955	18%
Kin Sang	220	31%	445	23%
King Lam	783	44%	1 312	33%
Ko Cheung Court	323	18%	1 122	16%
Ko Yee	297	25%	498	14%
Kwai Chung	3 030	23%	6 499	18%
Kwai Fong	1 233	20%	2 484	13%
Kwai Hing	160	40%	315	32%
Kwai Shing (East)	1 389	22%	2 843	15%
Kwai Shing (West)	843	17%	1 765	12%
Kwong Fuk	1 036	17%	2 284	12%
Kwong Tin	336	15%	690	9%
Kwong Yuen	717	45%	1 311	31%
Kwun Lung House	123	5%	197	5%
Kwun Tong Garden	781	16%	1 486	11%
Lai King	752	18%	1 536	13%
Lai Kok	773	28%	1 346	18%
Lai On	306	22%	467	12%
Lai Tak Chuen	210	8%	421	6%
Lai Yiu	488	18%	1 010	12%
Lakeside Garden	25	11%	59	8%
Lee On	697	19%	1 618	13%
Lei Cheng Uk	655	44%	1 239	32%
Lei Muk Shue	1 825	18%	3 992	13%
Lei Tung	768	26%	1 341	18%
Lei Yue Mun	850	27%	1 911	20%
Lek Yuen	627	20%	1 224	14%
Leung King	962	29%	1 874	20%
Lok Fu	739	21%	1 321	12%
Lok Man Sun Chuen	460	13%	887	8%

Lok Wah (North)	332	11%	837	8%
Lok Wah (South)	1 953	29%	3 240	21%
Long Bin Interim Housing	130	22%	177	18%
Long Ping	1 331	28%	3 097	21%
Lung Hang	677	16%	1 752	12%
Lung Tin	106	35%	166	24%
Ma Hang	110	12%	233	8%
Ma Tau Wai	423	20%	845	16%
Mei Lam	794	20%	1 486	13%
Mei Tin	1 116	21%	2 476	17%
Mei Tung	168	28%	293	17%
Ming Tak	309	21%	580	13%
Ming Wa Dai Ha	236	7%	383	6%
Model Housing	102	15%	244	10%
Moon Lok Dai Ha	125	13%	238	10%
Nam Cheong	299	37%	583	25%
Nam Shan	596	23%	1 104	15%
Nga Ning Court	50	13%	143	10%
Ngan Wan	55	14%	121	9%
Ngau Tau Kok Lower (II)	1 034	32%	1 647	21%
Ngau Tau Kok Upper	551	26%	929	16%
Oi Man	894	14%	2 125	11%
Oi Tung	1 127	30%	1 874	20%
On Tin	173	25%	665	21%
On Ting	1 104	23%	1 952	15%
On Yam	865	17%	1 762	11%
Pak Tin	2 364	28%	4 300	18%
Ping Shek	655	15%	1 327	11%
Ping Tin	1 503	28%	2 721	17%
Po Lam	647	29%	1 421	21%
Po Tat	2 105	28%	4 974	21%
Po Tin	1 444	24%	1 835	22%
Po Tin Interim Housing	416	42%	538	16%
Pok Hong	554	40%	1 140	29%
Prosperous Garden	111	17%	142	10%
Sai Wan	54	9%	142	7%
Sam Shing	268	16%	572	11%
Sau Mau Ping	3 503	29%	7 275	20%
Sha Kok	1 403	23%	2 531	16%
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	76	11%	191	6%
Shan King	1 446	22%	2 840	16%
Shek Kip Mei	1 505	31%	2 762	21%
Shek Lei (I)	1 200	26%	2 357	17%

Shek Lei (II)	1 950	27%	4 284	20%
Shek Pai Wan	783	15%	1 587	9%
Shek Wai Kok	1 040	17%	2 158	12%
Shek Yam	737	28%	1 848	21%
Shek Yam (East)	556	23%	932	15%
Sheung Lok	178	59%	222	37%
Sheung Tak	1 228	22%	3 134	16%
Shui Pin Wai	753	33%	1 414	22%
Shun Lee	779	18%	1 525	12%
Shun On	646	22%	1 207	16%
Shun Tin	1 327	20%	2 667	13%
Siu Sai Wan	712	12%	1 602	8%
So Uk	255	17%	446	12%
Sun Chui	1 119	17%	2 249	12%
Sun Tin Wai	519	16%	1 115	11%
Tai Hang Tung	621	31%	948	19%
Tai Hing	1 930	24%	3 458	18%
Tai Ping	114	29%	322	21%
Tai Wo	927	39%	1 722	26%
Tai Wo Hau	1 399	19%	2 792	12%
Tai Yuen	798	17%	1 972	13%
Tak Tin	1 098	48%	1 758	37%
Tin Chak	1 132	29%	2 788	22%
Tin Ching	720	23%	1 568	19%
Tin Heng	1 526	27%	5 477	24%
Tin King	307	28%	706	20%
Tin Ping	464	33%	1 102	23%
Tin Shui	1 327	17%	3 100	12%
Tin Tsz	885	28%	1 611	17%
Tin Wah	1 065	30%	2 411	20%
Tin Wan	700	23%	1 175	13%
Tin Yan	1 519	29%	2 747	26%
Tin Yat	820	25%	2 869	22%
Tin Yiu	1 508	18%	3 464	12%
Tin Yuet	1 232	30%	3 070	24%
Tsing Yi	302	34%	564	24%
Tsui Lam	412	22%	1 030	17%
Tsui Lok	149	50%	285	36%
Tsui Ping (North)	1 842	53%	3 250	39%
Tsui Ping (South)	804	17%	1 362	10%
Tsui Wan	231	39%	400	22%
Tsz Ching	2 266	28%	4 282	18%
Tsz Hong	505	25%	1 722	22%

Tsz Lok	1 432	23%	2 822	15%
Tsz Man	391	21%	807	13%
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	30	10%	59	7%
Tung Tau	1 622	46%	2 559	32%
Un Chau	1 350	25%	2 213	15%
Verbena Heights	211	22%	326	17%
Wah Fu	1 182	13%	2 552	9%
Wah Kwai	486	41%	728	26%
Wah Lai	310	22%	916	19%
Wah Ming	842	42%	1 688	29%
Wah Sum	355	24%	871	17%
Wan Hon	559	56%	884	44%
Wan Tau Tong	335	42%	579	29%
Wan Tsui	630	18%	1 333	12%
Wang Tau Hom	922	16%	1 829	10%
Wo Che	959	15%	2 488	12%
Wo Lok	422	22%	775	16%
Wong Tai Sin Lower (I)	987	52%	1 753	37%
Wong Tai Sin Lower (II)	990	15%	1 937	10%
Wong Tai Sin Upper	1 183	29%	2 163	18%
Wu King	521	12%	1 438	9%
Yat Tung	2 282	20%	7 013	17%
Yau Lai	700	18%	2 003	15%
Yau Oi	1 562	18%	3 482	13%
Yau Tong	1 016	29%	2 253	21%
Yiu On	432	33%	880	22%
Yiu Tung	906	17%	1 672	10%
Yue Kwong Chuen	89	8%	147	5%
Yue Wan	415	20%	839	13%
Yung Shing Court	544	32%	1 454	22%
Total	158 100	23%	327 804	16%

Table 2 : The number of households on CSSA by nature of cases in each of the public housing estate as at end-December 2008

Housing Estate	Old Age	Permanent disability	Ill health	Single Parent	Low Earning	Unemployment	Others	Total
Ap Lei Chau	262	53	55	107	47	24	12	560
Bo Shek Mansion	61	1	-	3	1	-	-	66
Broadview Garden	12	2	2	8	3	3	1	31
Butterfly	708	49	122	238	25	111	24	1 277
Chak On	347	12	41	61	16	38	4	519
Cheung Ching	310	29	47	87	59	74	15	621
Cheung Fat	255	26	41	60	18	46	4	450

Cheung Hang	353	34	45	72	28	63	9	604
Cheung Hong	875	81	97	179	49	130	21	1 432
Cheung Kwai	23	3	6	9	11	7	1	60
Cheung On	283	40	48	46	20	65	8	510
Cheung Shan	96	12	15	23	14	10	1	171
Cheung Wah	434	25	79	125	52	55	17	787
Cheung Wang	304	61	97	214	136	201	24	1 037
Ching Ho	314	34	127	334	113	148	40	1 110
Cho Yiu Chuen	184	8	10	13	19	16	5	255
Choi Fai	88	7	22	23	15	26	4	185
Choi Ha	179	16	19	15	16	23	1	269
Choi Hung	843	67	116	219	84	103	15	1 447
Choi Ming Court	228	57	99	131	101	96	5	717
Choi Wan (I)	388	63	96	128	64	84	12	835
Choi Wan (II)	203	17	48	83	36	39	7	433
Choi Ying	393	19	48	194	49	92	12	807
Choi Yuen	795	39	102	184	36	82	24	1 262
Chuk Yuen (North)	354	34	84	63	31	66	10	642
Chuk Yuen (South)	885	72	114	250	69	102	14	1 506
Chun Seen Mei Chuen	92	5	7	9	5	14	2	134
Chun Shek	269	10	55	56	21	23	5	439
Chung On	295	40	93	105	50	98	11	692
Clague Garden	67	-	1	3	5	6	2	84
Easeful Court	12	4	7	12	19	16	4	74
Fortune	583	33	64	45	31	51	6	813
Fu Cheong	1 449	66	141	226	172	170	9	2 233
Fu Heng	441	41	116	104	51	87	9	849
Fu Shan	176	18	27	26	30	24	3	304
Fu Shin	418	37	69	174	27	70	17	812
Fu Tai	385	95	100	182	146	201	12	1 121
Fu Tung	77	17	19	56	18	17	3	207
Fuk Loi	344	20	32	74	22	36	9	537
Fung Tak	506	30	83	54	26	48	10	757
Fung Wah	85	11	16	14	6	10	1	143
Grandeur Terrace	109	24	114	363	174	212	10	1 006
Hau Tak	350	43	81	123	53	62	6	718
Healthy Village	94	5	8	11	9	6	-	133
Heng On	258	22	43	63	23	29	10	448
High Prosperity Terrace	10	4	8	19	24	14	4	83
Hin Keng	208	37	41	53	27	26	15	407
Hin Yiu	82	13	28	53	13	11	4	204
Hing Man	124	27	21	50	32	21	5	280
Hing Tin	76	18	16	35	24	11	4	184
Hing Tung	192	15	30	52	18	26	2	335

Hing Wah (I)	283	52	49	56	47	33	7	527
Hing Wah (II)	525	52	51	106	29	40	12	815
Ho Man Tin	665	46	121	111	85	80	10	1 118
Hoi Fu Court	580	27	64	102	95	91	8	967
Hoi Lai	256	40	76	204	182	149	15	922
Hong Tung	214	2	5	4	1	5	-	231
Hung Hom	211	11	30	16	14	17	1	300
Jat Min Chuen	330	26	32	33	25	28	3	477
Ka Fuk	247	20	41	58	34	51	10	461
Ka Wai Chuen	208	8	28	18	10	27	1	300
Kai Tin	330	31	42	51	30	45	2	531
Kai Yip	793	51	66	124	29	61	11	1 135
Kam Peng	24	2	5	5	5	7	-	48
Kin Ming	306	84	241	428	204	225	18	1 506
Kin Sang	90	12	33	37	17	23	8	220
King Lam	442	68	86	95	24	66	2	783
Ko Cheung Court	44	12	26	124	53	55	9	323
Ko Yee	211	16	13	27	11	16	3	297
Kwai Chung	1 026	194	277	670	305	489	69	3 030
Kwai Fong	660	95	105	125	113	125	10	1 233
Kwai Hing	91	11	10	24	7	13	4	160
Kwai Shing (East)	716	88	113	165	117	173	17	1 389
Kwai Shing (West)	465	46	57	113	62	90	10	843
Kwong Fuk	496	53	108	201	76	81	21	1 036
Kwong Tin	156	21	35	50	27	41	6	336
Kwong Yuen	382	57	85	88	27	65	13	717
Kwun Lung House	90	5	7	7	7	6	1	123
Kwun Tong Garden	494	33	62	62	48	72	10	781
Lai King	415	44	56	91	57	72	17	752
Lai Kok	469	45	53	114	25	59	8	773
Lai On	211	19	23	22	10	19	2	306
Lai Tak Chuen	125	14	20	16	16	16	3	210
Lai Yiu	280	21	33	50	40	60	4	488
Lakeside Garden	13	2	5	3	2	-	-	25
Lee On	272	52	116	115	45	85	12	697
Lei Cheng Uk	361	39	45	74	43	82	11	655
Lei Muk Shue	728	104	152	364	165	261	51	1 825
Lei Tung	451	61	52	102	36	47	19	768
Lei Yue Mun	400	39	64	132	84	114	17	850
Lek Yuen	358	41	46	101	29	43	9	627
Leung King	512	40	108	123	41	118	20	962
Lok Fu	388	54	79	96	43	72	7	739
Lok Man Sun Chuen	282	16	44	39	25	49	5	460
Lok Wah (North)	132	22	40	56	31	44	7	332

Lok Wah (South)	1 446	47	101	198	39	111	11	1 953
Long Bin Interim Housing	33	7	11	7	3	66	3	130
Long Ping	521	59	119	348	90	171	23	1 331
Lung Hang	290	33	84	106	85	68	11	677
Lung Tin	68	12	4	9	2	11	-	106
Ma Hang	47	10	12	22	11	6	2	110
Ma Tau Wai	215	15	35	105	16	35	2	423
Mei Lam	431	44	71	136	32	65	15	794
Mei Tin	233	51	133	340	120	205	34	1 116
Mei Tung	105	8	12	18	3	19	3	168
Ming Tak	180	16	17	46	17	28	5	309
Ming Wa Dai Ha	162	12	21	12	10	18	1	236
Model Housing	47	5	12	14	17	5	2	102
Moon Lok Dai Ha	89	3	14	7	4	7	1	125
Nam Cheong	165	15	26	47	15	30	1	299
Nam Shan	327	18	62	110	31	39	9	596
Nga Ning Court	11	1	3	13	10	11	1	50
Ngan Wan	27	3	6	8	5	6	-	55
Ngau Tau Kok Lower (II)	745	48	70	47	28	91	5	1 034
Ngau Tau Kok Upper	374	23	56	29	27	39	3	551
Oi Man	355	53	111	205	74	86	10	894
Oi Tung	763	61	74	127	45	50	7	1 127
On Tin	23	9	9	50	43	35	4	173
On Ting	595	75	95	143	36	142	18	1 104
On Yam	508	51	64	72	62	91	17	865
Pak Tin	1 453	53	201	275	161	200	21	2 364
Ping Shek	362	39	48	98	36	65	7	655
Ping Tin	938	84	103	146	79	134	19	1 503
Po Lam	297	50	66	139	44	38	13	647
Po Tat	1 056	62	153	313	256	245	20	2 105
Po Tin	652	107	241	118	12	292	22	1 444
Po Tin Interim Housing	119	33	71	22	6	160	5	416
Pok Hong	277	22	80	77	48	37	13	554
Prosperous Garden	101	-	4	1	3	2	-	111
Sai Wan	25	1	10	5	8	4	1	54
Sam Shing	134	17	16	58	10	26	7	268
Sau Mau Ping	2 040	146	265	391	312	310	39	3 503
Sha Kok	902	79	102	180	32	93	15	1 403
Sha Tau Kok Chuen	38	5	11	5	7	8	2	76
Shan King	746	66	132	261	64	151	26	1 446
Shek Kip Mei	921	48	132	181	87	117	19	1 505
Shek Lei (I)	672	87	81	169	73	101	17	1 200
Shek Lei (II)	874	103	154	268	206	300	45	1 950
Shek Pai Wan	458	55	53	68	87	49	13	783

Shek Wai Kok	575	43	83	178	49	96	16	1 040
Shek Yam	397	40	41	74	84	92	9	737
Shek Yam (East)	361	45	31	39	29	47	4	556
Sheung Lok	160	9	-	4	-	4	1	178
Sheung Tak	494	63	145	196	164	153	13	1 228
Shui Pin Wai	506	19	51	92	27	51	7	753
Shun Lee	441	37	55	113	51	74	8	779
Shun On	398	36	47	72	35	55	3	646
Shun Tin	786	50	130	155	71	122	13	1 327
Siu Sai Wan	315	68	61	131	62	64	11	712
So Uk	129	17	26	27	19	37	-	255
Sun Chui	598	67	116	197	44	82	15	1 119
Sun Tin Wai	254	31	54	93	34	42	11	519
Tai Hang Tung	440	20	60	48	18	32	3	621
Tai Hing	1 058	77	200	272	57	234	32	1 930
Tai Ping	29	5	14	31	8	25	2	114
Tai Wo	562	41	109	106	40	57	12	927
Tai Wo Hau	773	90	103	193	75	133	32	1 399
Tai Yuen	348	33	117	123	67	99	11	798
Tak Tin	775	39	76	81	40	78	9	1 098
Tin Chak	408	41	139	254	105	178	7	1 132
Tin Ching	222	28	67	217	42	118	26	720
Tin Heng	211	43	151	461	306	325	29	1 526
Tin King	107	14	35	88	19	34	10	307
Tin Ping	181	32	55	102	34	52	8	464
Tin Shui	517	72	120	317	95	173	33	1 327
Tin Tsz	503	54	72	97	38	103	18	885
Tin Wah	494	48	113	160	107	123	20	1 065
Tin Wan	431	50	78	51	38	40	12	700
Tin Yan	546	56	190	374	71	259	23	1 519
Tin Yat	124	24	74	247	141	191	19	820
Tin Yiu	575	63	193	338	102	198	39	1 508
Tin Yuet	441	42	139	240	143	208	19	1 232
Tsing Yi	162	15	38	28	17	38	4	302
Tsui Lam	152	18	41	117	42	35	7	412
Tsui Lok	122	6	3	9	3	4	2	149
Tsui Ping (North)	1 108	79	164	228	93	145	25	1 842
Tsui Ping (South)	560	32	49	56	38	61	8	804
Tsui Wan	136	18	15	30	7	17	8	231
Tsz Ching	1 381	74	162	236	219	180	14	2 266
Tsz Hong	104	15	37	137	133	72	7	505
Tsz Lok	855	51	108	189	104	112	13	1 432
Tsz Man	209	18	37	53	32	36	6	391
Tui Min Hoi Chuen	8	2	8	3	5	3	1	30

Tung Tau	1 093	89	101	140	64	127	8	1 622
Un Chau	952	66	73	95	64	94	6	1 350
Verbena Heights	135	7	25	14	5	24	1	211
Wah Fu	586	95	105	205	124	52	15	1 182
Wah Kwai	343	38	33	36	18	15	3	486
Wah Lai	93	16	38	44	56	59	4	310
Wah Ming	422	29	101	136	52	84	18	842
Wah Sum	145	19	50	61	31	44	5	355
Wan Hon	509	5	7	12	11	10	5	559
Wan Tau Tong	195	24	45	35	8	25	3	335
Wan Tsui	328	41	46	110	47	46	12	630
Wang Tau Hom	419	73	83	145	80	99	23	922
Wo Che	406	64	123	140	101	101	24	959
Wo Lok	244	32	23	68	21	32	2	422
Wong Tai Sin Lower (I)	529	62	80	152	56	93	15	987
Wong Tai Sin Lower (II)	479	66	97	177	62	97	12	990
Wong Tai Sin Upper	743	78	66	111	75	100	10	1 183
Wu King	152	17	79	123	47	88	15	521
Yat Tung	402	131	251	588	373	489	48	2 282
Yau Lai	196	17	57	203	108	99	20	700
Yau Oi	673	103	136	278	111	238	23	1 562
Yau Tong	524	51	80	133	111	104	13	1 016
Yiu On	200	33	58	80	23	29	9	432
Yiu Tung	515	61	81	99	61	69	20	906
Yue Kwong Chuen	57	6	7	8	3	6	2	89
Yue Wan	211	32	31	82	23	32	4	415
Yung Shing Court	233	22	64	82	64	76	3	544
Total	81 176	8 010	14 296	24 041	11 577	16 689	2 311	158 100

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, would the Government please provide the following information:

- (a) the number of recipients under the unemployment category of the CSSA Scheme, their sex, age distribution, number of years for receiving CSSA, the nature of jobs and their wages as well as the districts where they live from 2006-07 to 2008-09; and
- (b) the number of recipients under the low-earnings category of the CSSA Scheme, their sex, age distribution, number of years for receiving CSSA, the nature of jobs and their wages as well as the districts where they live from 2006-07 to 2008-09?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : Statistics on CSSA unemployed and low earnings recipients[@] with breakdown by selected profiles for March 2007, March 2008 and January 2009 are as follows:

Table 1: CSSA unemployed and low earnings recipients with breakdown by sex-

Sex	CSSA Unemployed recipients			CSSA Low earnings recipients		
	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009
Male	22 844	19 242	20 079	13 455	12 449	10 934
Female	11 663	10 794	11 344	12 216	11 804	10 731
Total	34 507	30 036	31 423	25 671	24 253	21 665

Table 2: CSSA unemployed and low earnings recipients with breakdown by age group-

Age group	CSSA Unemployed recipients			CSSA Low earnings recipients		
	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009
15 – 19	1 505	1 403	1 716	1 544	1 325	1 165
20 – 29	2 267	1 782	2 179	4 161	3 768	3 171
30 – 39	3 852	3 327	3 699	4 217	3 885	3 501
40 – 49	10 736	8 910	9 167	10 667	9 918	8 868
50 – 59	16 147	14 614	14 662	5 082	5 357	4 960
Total	34 507	30 036	31 423	25 671	24 253	21 665

Table 3: CSSA unemployed and low earnings recipients with breakdown by duration of stay on CSSA-

Duration of stay on CSSA (year)	CSSA Unemployed recipients			CSSA Low earnings recipients		
	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009
1 or less	6 073	4 363	5 367	2 303	1 605	1 468
More than 1 - 2	3 790	3 129	2 853	2 556	2 044	1 503
More than 2 - 3	3 504	2 668	2 560	2 798	2 139	1 780
More than 3 - 4	4 238	2 665	2 348	3 880	2 427	1 778
More than 4 - 5	4 040	3 214	2 421	3 555	3 338	2 106
More than 5	12 862	13 997	15 874	10 579	12 700	13 030
Total	34 507	30 036	31 423	25 671	24 253	21 665

Table 4: CSSA unemployed and low earnings recipients with breakdown by occupation-

Occupation	CSSA Unemployed recipients			CSSA Low earnings recipients		
	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009
Cleaner	232	237	212	3 813	3 631	3 294
Clerk	9	20	12	1 283	1 254	1 046
Construction worker/ labourer/ decoration worker	143	107	75	1 260	1 089	926
Delivery worker	194	191	155	1 305	1 224	1 095
Domestic helper / baby sitter	122	110	145	549	568	531
Driver	54	52	42	1 084	1 015	942
General worker / labourer (other than those of construction)	542	557	529	5 418	5 210	4 782
Salesperson	64	74	64	1 685	1 537	1 441
Waiter/ waitress	129	110	79	1 410	1 360	1 276
Watchman / guard	38	29	35	2 269	2 137	1 836
Others	421	404	420	5 595	5 228	4 496
Total	1 948	1 891	1 768	25 671	24 253	21 665

Table 5: CSSA unemployed and low earnings recipients with breakdown by employment earnings-

Employment earnings	CSSA Unemployed recipients			CSSA Low earnings recipients		
	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009
\$ 0	32 559	28 145	29 655	0	0	0
Less than \$1,450@	1 948	1 891	1 768	0	0	0
\$1,450@ – less than \$4,400	0	0	0	11 157	10 424	9 240
\$4,400 – less than \$6,000	0	0	0	7 802	6 920	5 849
\$6,000 – less than \$8,000	0	0	0	5 176	5 373	5 030
\$8,000 or above	0	0	0	1 536	1 536	1 546
Total	34 507	30 036	31 423	25 671	24 253	21 665

Table 6: CSSA unemployed and low earnings recipients with breakdown by geographical district#-

Geographical district *	CSSA Unemployed recipients			CSSA Low earnings recipients		
	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009	March 2007	March 2008	January 2009
Central and Western	337	256	269	157	163	159
Eastern	1 229	1 091	1 150	986	945	883
Islands	908	779	764	834	731	622
Kowloon City	1 362	1 199	1 262	800	774	665
Kwai Tsing	3 526	3 050	3 149	3 069	2 913	2 629
Kwun Tong	3 785	3 399	3 537	3 471	3 245	2 985
North	1 449	1 276	1 419	1 114	1 085	1 014

Sai Kung	1 254	993	1 020	1 442	1 300	1 103
Sha Tin	1 878	1 569	1 758	1 782	1 633	1 454
Sham Shui Po	3 675	3 236	3 460	1 906	1 885	1 690
Southern	439	403	420	635	588	504
Tai Po	1 044	855	832	847	815	674
Tsuen Wan	985	820	834	685	620	578
Tuen Mun	2 871	2 502	2 584	1 564	1 449	1 285
Wan Chai	347	248	220	100	77	69
Wong Tai Sin	2 469	2 200	2 197	2 464	2 367	2 088
Yau Tsim Mong	2 247	1 991	2 056	575	563	502
Yuen Long	4 701	4 169	4 491	3 240	3 100	2 761
Total △	34 506	30 036	31 422	25 671	24 253	21 665

Notes: @ CSSA low-earnings recipients refer to those who are gainfully employed and with employment earnings equivalent to or more than the standard rate of an able-bodied adult in a family comprising not more than two able-bodied adults/children (i.e. \$1,450 with effect from 1.2.2007, \$1,490 with effect from 1.2.2008 and \$1,555 with effect from 1.8.2008).

* The boundary of geographical districts is broadly similar to that of the District Councils.

Figures refer to those with information on geographical districts.

△ Excluding one CSSA unemployed recipient without information on geographical district in March 2007 and January 2009 respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding Disability Allowance (DA), would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of DA recipients in each district of the Kowloon East and the annual expenditure involved in 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09;
- (b) the estimated number of DA recipients in the districts of the Kowloon East and the estimated expenditure involved in 2009-10; and
- (c) the number of DA recipients living in public housing estates of the Kowloon East and the expenditure involved in 2008?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) The number of DA recipients in each district of the Kowloon East from 2006-07 to 2008-09 is as below:

District#	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
Wong Tai Sin	8 867	9 067	9 417
Kwun Tong	11 105	11 461	11 813

The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

We do not keep separate records of the annual expenditure on a district basis.

- (b) We do not have separate estimates of the number of recipients and the expenditure involved in 2009-10 on a district basis.

- (c) As at end-February 2009, there were 12 973 DA recipients who were living in public housing estates of the Kowloon East. We do not keep separate records of the expenditure involved for these recipients.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding Old Age Allowance (OAA), would the Government please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the numbers of recipients of Normal Old Age Allowance (NOAA) and Higher Old Age Allowance (HOAA) respectively in various districts of the Kowloon East (including Wong Tai Sin and Kwun Tong), and the expenditures involved in 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09;
- (b) the estimated numbers of recipients of NOAA and HOAA respectively in various districts of the Kowloon East and the estimated expenditure involved in 2009-10;
- (c) the numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents who are aged 65 to 69 or aged 70 or above in various districts of the Kowloon East in 2008; and
- (d) the numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents in public housing estates of the Kowloon East, and the numbers of persons and households receiving OAA in public housing estates in 2008.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) The numbers of recipients of NOAA and HOAA in the districts of the Kowloon East in 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are as below:

District#	Number of NOAA recipients in the Kowloon East		
	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
Wong Tai Sin	7 137	6 361	6 082
Kwun Tong	9 641	8 782	8 608

District#	Number of HOAA recipients in the Kowloon East		
	2006-07 (as at March 2007)	2007-08 (as at March 2008)	2008-09 (as at February 2009)
Wong Tai Sin	38 614	39 498	40 289
Kwun Tong	40 102	41 181	42 719

The geographical district of cases in our Computerised Social Security System is broadly similar to the boundary of the District Council Constituency.

We do not keep separate records of the expenditure involved on a district basis.

- (b) We do not have separate estimates on the numbers of NOAA and HOAA recipients and the expenditure involved in 2009-10 on a district basis.
- (c) The numbers of elderly persons and households with elderly residents who are aged 65 to 69 or aged 70 or above in the districts of the Kowloon East in 2007 (most updated figures) are as below:

District	Elderly persons		Household with elderly residents	
	65 - 69	70+	65 - 69	70+
Wong Tai Sin	15 600	53 500	12 000	31 900
Kwun Tong	24 800	64 300	20 500	46 700

- (d) As at end-December 2008 (most updated figures), the number of elderly persons aged 60 or above living in public housing estates of the Kowloon East was 132 250. As at end-February 2009, the number of OAA recipients living in public housing estates of the Kowloon East was 57 323. We do not have records of the numbers of households with elderly residents or households with OAA recipients in public housing estates of the Kowloon East.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : What were the total number of cases served by all Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs), the number of active cases and the number of caseworkers in 2008-09? What were the average number of cases served by IFSCs and the average processing time per case in 2008-09?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : The estimated number of cases to be served by IFSCs in 2008-09 is 87 318. As at 31 December 2008, there were a total of 46 896 active cases, with each IFSC handling 768.8 cases on average. We do not have statistics on the time spent on case handling.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)243

Question Serial No.

2824

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Government please inform this Committee whether legislation is required for implementing a licensing scheme for all residential care homes for persons with disabilities (PWDs)? If yes, when will the bill be submitted to the Legislative Council for deliberation; and whether it will be submitted in the 2009-10 legislative session? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : As indicated in the 2008-09 Legislative Programme submitted to the Legislative Council (LegCo) on 22 October 2008, the Administration plans to introduce a Bill into the LegCo in the second half of the current legislative session (i.e. between March to July 2009) to implement a licensing scheme to regulate the operation of residential care homes for PWDs (RCHDs).

Given that the Bill will comprise a large number of provisions and entail consequential amendments to other ordinances necessitating deliberation of the related policy issues, a recent review of the work progress reveals that we would not be able to introduce the Bill within the current legislative session as originally scheduled. The Administration would continue to make active efforts to resolve the related policy issues and expedite the law drafting work, and aims to introduce the Bill into the LegCo within the 2009-10 legislative session.

In tandem, the Administration will closely monitor the operation of the RCHDs. We are also studying the feasibility of a host of complementary measures with a view to minimising the impact on service users of the RCHDs and providing more service options for PWDs while ensuring that a reasonable standard of service will be provided by the RCHDs.

The Social Welfare Department will also continue to reinforce its monitoring of the service quality of the private RCHDs, including conducting inspections, organising fire-safety talks cum evacuation drills, as well as training courses on drug management, physical restraints and infection control in order to

provide support to these RCHDs in enhancing their service quality and enriching their knowledge and skills.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : How many district support centres for persons with disabilities (PWDs) did the Social Welfare Department (SWD) set up in 2008? What is the total number of these centres? In which districts are these centres located? What are the numbers of PWDs served by the respective centres?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : SWD has set up 16 District Support Centres for PWDs in the territory in January 2009. Details are as follows:

District	Number of centre(s)
Eastern & Wanchai	1
Central, Western, Southern & Islands	1
Kwun Tong	2
Wong Tai Sin & Sai Kung	2
Kowloon City & Yau Tsim Mong	1
Sham Shui Po	1
Shatin	1
Tai Po & North	2
Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing	2
Tuen Mun	1
Yuen Long	2

These 16 District Support Centres provide one-stop community support services to PWDs and/or their families/carers through individual or group training/programmes and support service; allied health support service; respite service; social, recreational and personal development programmes; training programmes/educational courses/workshops and community education. These centres do not have a fixed capacity.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the number of additional staff employed for District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs) and additional day care places provided in 2008? What were the expenditure involved? What was the geographical distribution of these additional staff and places?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : In 2008-09, an additional recurrent funding of \$18 million was allocated to the 41 DECCs to enable each of them to recruit an additional social worker to strengthen their services including counselling and referral services, and the processing of applications for subsidised long-term care services for the elderly. In this regard, a total of 41 additional social workers were employed and distributed across the districts as follows:

District	Number of DECCs / additional social workers
Central & Western	2
Islands	1
Eastern	4
Wan Chai	2
Southern	2
Kwun Tong	4
Wong Tai Sin	4
Sai Kung	2
Sham Shui Po	3
Yau Tsim Mong	2
Kowloon City	3
Sha Tin	3
Tai Po	1
North	1

Yuen Long	2
Tsuen Wan	1
Kwai Tsing	2
Tuen Mun	2
Total:	41

An additional 177 day care places were provided in 2008-09 in five districts, namely Shatin (63 places), Kwun Tong (45 places), Tuen Mun (44 places), Kwai Tsing (20 places) and Sham Shui Po (5 places). The estimated annual expenditure for these 177 day care places is \$12.96 million. The resources allocated to the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) running the Day Care Centres/Units for the Elderly are to meet the recurrent expenses including remuneration of staff required to take care of the additional places. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, NGOs have the flexibility in deploying the allocated resources to recruit additional staff to meet the service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the Home Environment Improvement Scheme for the Elderly (the Scheme), please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) In 2008-09, what were the respective numbers of individual and household applications received under the Scheme? What was the distribution of their living districts?
- (b) Has the Administration received any complaints about the Scheme so far? If yes, please provide the number of complaints and the details.
- (c) What is the expenditure of the Scheme involved so far?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) Under the Scheme, applications have to be made on a household basis. As at end-December 2008, 8 275 eligible household applications were received and the distribution by district was as follows:

District	Number of eligible household applications
Central & Western	286
Islands	201
Eastern	832
Wan Chai	262
Southern	302
Kwun Tong	993
Wong Tai Sin	560
Sai Kung	152
Sham Shui Po	1 085
Yau Tsim Mong	138
Kowloon City	518
Sha Tin	682

Tai Po	140
North	240
Yuen Long	443
Tsuen Wan	181
Kwai Tsing	575
Tuen Mun	685
Total:	8 275

- (b) In October 2008, the Secretariat of the Legislative Council referred to the Social Welfare Department (SWD) a complaint lodged by an organisation about the processing of three applications under the Scheme. The key complaint details included alleged inconsistency in exercising discretion for special cases among the delivery agencies i.e. District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs), over-charging by a works agent and lack of transparency in the assessment of elders' need for the items applied. SWD had followed up the cases with the concerned DECCs and found the complaints unsubstantiated. The concerned DECCs had taken follow-up actions to clear up any misunderstanding involved. No other complaint has been received by SWD.
- (c) As at end-December 2008, about \$6 million was spent under the Scheme since its launch in June 2008.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As regards the services for elders, would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- a) the respective population aged between 60 to 64 and 65 or above in Wong Tai Sin and Kwun Tong Districts?
- b) the number of places provided by District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs), Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs), Social Centres for the Elderly, Day Care Centres for the Elderly, Self-Care (S/C) Hostels, Homes for the Aged (H/A), Care-and-Attention (C&A) Homes, Nursing Homes (NH), private Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (RCHEs) participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and contract homes in the above districts?
- c) the number of elders waitlisting for these residential and centre-based services in the above districts?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) The breakdown of elderly population by age and by district is as follows :

District \ Age	60-64	65 or above
	Wong Tai Sin	17 000
Kwun Tong	24 700	89 200

Source: General Household Survey (2007) conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

- (b) The number of places provided by the various types of elderly services units (position as at end-March 2009) is as follows :

District	Service Type								
	Number of DECCs (Note ¹)	Number of NECs (Note ¹)	Number of Social Centres for the Elderly (Note ¹)	Day Care Places	S/C Hostel Places	H/A Places	C & A Places (Note ²)	NH Places (Note ²)	EBPS Places
Wong Tai Sin	4	12	2	237	0	34	1 079 (76)	391 (111)	231
Kwun Tong	4	14	6	305	0	0	1 057 (74)	331 (93)	279

Note¹: There is no fixed number of service places for DECCs, NECs and Social Centres for the Elderly.

Note²: Figures in brackets denote the provision in contract homes.

- (c) For subsidised residential care services, all applications are managed under the Central Waiting List for Subsidised Long Term Care Services on a territory-wide basis with no separate waiting list for individual districts. The number of waitlisted cases by type of places is as follows:

Type of services	Number of waitlisted cases (as at end-February 2009)
C&A places	17 966
NH places	6 303
S/C hostel and H/A places	Not applicable as the Social Welfare Department has ceased to accept new applications for placement in S/C hostel and H/A since 1 January 2003.

For day care services, as at end-February 2009, the numbers of waitlisted cases in Wong Tai Sin and Kwun Tong districts were 151 and 139 respectively.

There is no waiting list nor waiting time for elderly centre services provided by DECCs, NECs and Social Centres for the Elderly.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : At present, how many elders in various districts and outlying islands in Hong Kong are receiving “Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS)” and “Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS)”? Among them, how many are cases of “singleton elders” and “elderly households”?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : The number of cases served by IHCS and EHCCS teams in individual districts as at end-December 2008 is as follows:

District	Number of IHCS cases	Number of EHCCS cases	District	Number of IHCS cases	Number of EHCCS cases
Central & Western Islands	688	133	Sai Kung	454	118
Wanchai	550	124	Kwun Tong	2 178	232
Eastern	1 802	182	Sha Tin	1 663	138
Southern	1 099	98	Tai Po	880	79
Yau Tsim Mong	1 021	114	North	704	120
Sham Shui Po	1 932	125	Yuen Long	1 440	105
Kowloon City	1 339	168	Tsuen Wan	436	108
Wong Tai Sin	1 892	207	Kwai Tsing	1 191	197
			Tuen Mun	1 274	80

Six new EHCCS teams were set up on 1 December 2008 to provide additional EHCCS places. The number of cases served by respective teams as at end-December 2008 is as follows:

Cluster	Number of EHCCS cases
Hong Kong	16
Yau Tsim Mong & Kowloon City	29
Wong Tai Sin & Sai Kung	16
Kwun Tong	14
New Territories East	17
New Territories West	33

Breakdown of the number by singleton elders and elderly households is not available.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In 2009-10, the Administration will oversee the provision of more places for day training, vocational rehabilitation, pre-school and residential services for persons with disabilities. What are the staffing arrangement, estimated expenditure and expected number of beneficiaries for each type of service?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : Additional provisions for rehabilitation services in 2009-10 are as follows:

Types of Service	Number of Places/ Beneficiaries	Estimated Expenditure (Full Year) (\$ million)
<i>Day Training Services:</i>		
Day Activity Centre	140	11.2
<i>Vocational Rehabilitation Services:</i>		
Sheltered Workshop	20	0.7
Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre	320	10.1
<i>Pre-school Rehabilitation Services:</i>		
Early Education and Training Centre	210	9.8
Special Child Care Centre	144	16.6
<i>Residential Services:</i>		
Long Stay Care Home	100	12.0
Hostel for Moderately Mentally Handicapped Persons	155	10.7
Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons	155	21.9
Care and Attention Home for the Severely Disabled	50	9.1
Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons	45	6.6
Supported Hostel	150	11.7
Small Group Home (Mildly Mentally Handicapped Children)	16	2.5

While the Social Welfare Department provides recurrent subvention for the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to provide these rehabilitation services, under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, NGOs have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 that the Government will continue to enhance the community support services for persons with disabilities (PWDs) and their carers. Would the Government please provide information on the estimated expenditure involved, the details of the plan and the anticipated outcome by each District Council district?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has set up the following 16 District Support Centres throughout the territory:

District	Number of centre
Eastern & Wanchai	1
Central, Western, Southern & Islands	1
Kwun Tong	2
Wong Tai Sin & Sai Kung	2
Kowloon City & Yau Tsim Mong	1
Sham Shui Po	1
Shatin	1
Tai Po & North	2
Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing	2
Tuen Mun	1
Yuen Long	2

With an additional annual provision of about \$35 million, SWD set up these centres in January 2009 through re-engineering the existing home-based training and support service to provide one-stop centre-based community support services to PWDs and their families/carers, thus enabling PWDs to continue to live independently at homes, while strengthening their families/carers' caring capacity and relieving their stress. These centres aim to provide PWDs and their families/carers with a wide range of community support services in one location in the vicinity of their homes.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary mentioned the “Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project” (NSCCP) in paragraph 113 of the 2009-10 Budget Speech. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the details, anticipated outcome and estimated expenditure of the project; and
- (b) the details of and the additional expenditure incurred for extending the project to other districts in March 2009?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) The Administration has earmarked \$45 million for the pilot NSCCP. The provision is for a period of three years starting from 2008-09. The NSCCP aims to provide parents in need with more flexible child care services in addition to the regular ones and at the same time promote community participation and mutual assistance in the neighbourhood. It has two service components: (i) home-based child care service for children aged under six, and (ii) centre-based care group for children aged three to under six. The operating hours of the two services under the NSCCP are flexible, covering the evenings, some weekends and some public holidays. Fee subsidy or waiver is available for families with proven financial and social needs.

When rolled out in full, the NSCCP will consist of 11 projects, one in each administrative district of the Social Welfare Department. Together, they will provide at least 286 home-based child care places and 154 centre-based care group places. The annual allocation for each project is \$1.27 million.

- (b) Six projects in Tung Chung, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Chung, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Kwun Tong have commenced operation since October 2008. Five other projects in Wong Tai Sin/Sai Kung, Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong, Tai Po/North, Shatin, and Eastern/Wan Chai will commence operation within March 2009. The additional costs to be incurred by these five projects are covered by the \$45 million time-limited funding mentioned in (a) above.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in paragraph 120 of the 2009-10 Budget Speech that an additional recurrent funding of about \$25 million will be provided to increase the number of social workers and clinical psychologists dealing with domestic violence cases. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the allocation details for the provision, the staffing arrangement, the information on the subvented organisations involved and the projected number of beneficiaries?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In 2009-10, an additional recurrent funding of \$24.5 million will be provided to further strengthen direct support to victims of domestic violence and families in need, including strengthening the manpower of the Social Welfare Department (SWD), further developing the batterer intervention programme (BIP), and enhancing support for various refuge and crisis centres. The estimated breakdown of allocation is as follows:

- (a) about \$7.8 million will be earmarked for providing an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists to the Family and Child Protective Services Units and the Clinical Psychology Units of SWD respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the BIP; and
- (b) about \$16.7 million will be earmarked for funding the continuous operation of the Multi-purpose Crisis Intervention and Support Centre following completion of the pilot period, and strengthening the manpower of the Family Crisis Support Centre, the Suicide Crisis Intervention Centre, the four Refuge Centres for Women, and the Po Leung Kuk New Comers Ward to provide timely support to victims of domestic violence and vulnerable families, children in need and survivors of suicide. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, non-governmental organisations have the flexibility in deploying the allocated provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)253

Question Serial No.

0541

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In the 2009-10 Estimate, it is anticipated that there will be a reduction in the number of cases served and the number of groups and programmes organised by Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) run by both the government sector and the subvented sector. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the method of and criteria for making the above projections; and
- (b) whether it will reduce support to IFSCs as a result? If yes, please give the details.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) We estimate the number of cases to be served by IFSCs with reference to the latest historical figures available at the time. For the 2009-10 Estimate, the figures are projections based on the number of cases handled in the first two quarters of 2008-09. They are comparable with the figures in the 2008-09 Revised Estimate.

The estimated numbers of groups and programmes to be organised by IFSCs in 2009-10 are the aggregate of the output indicators as stipulated in the Service Agreements/Funding and Service Agreements of each IFSC.

- (b) The Administration has no plan to reduce the resources allocated to IFSCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will further develop and continue to implement the Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP). Would the Administration please provide the details, the staffing establishment and the estimated expenditure of the BIP as well as the projected number of participants in this financial year?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The two-year pilot project of BIP launched by SWD was completed in March 2008 and it had been proven to be effective in helping abusers change their abusive behaviour. SWD had shared its experience of the pilot project with relevant stakeholders and developed user manuals for use by trained professionals. Following the completion of the pilot project, the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of SWD have continued to run the BIP for suitable clients as part of their counselling service. Besides, SWD will further study and develop suitable treatment models for different types of batterers. In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists will be allocated to FCPSUs and Clinical Psychology Units respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence, and further develop the BIP. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated to the BIP as it is an integrated component of the counselling service for batterers. It is estimated that about 90 batterers will participate in the programme in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in the Budget Speech that funding will be provided for ten additional medical social workers (MSWs) to allow more timely services to be provided to patients and their families. Please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the organisations that the ten MSWs will work for, their service targets and work locations; and
- (b) the considerations taken into account when determining the number of additional MSWs.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

- Reply :
- (a) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has secured additional resources to create ten MSW posts at SWD's medical social service units in various hospitals and clinics of the Hospital Authority (HA). This will enable provision of more timely welfare services for patients and their families/carers.
 - (b) The ten MSWs are to meet new service demands arising from the enhanced psychiatric outpatient, rehabilitation and oncology services put in place by HA over the years.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

16 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Estimate that less than 100 day care places for the elderly will be provided in 2009-10. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the method used in deriving this figure and the expenditure involved?
- (b) whether the Administration will increase the manpower for the day care places? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

- Reply :
- (a) The provision of an additional 80 day care places in 2009-10 is planned with reference to the service demand, elderly population, and availability of suitable venues and resources. The estimated annual expenditure for these additional 80 day care places is about \$5.9 million.
 - (b) The additional resources secured will be allocated to the concerned non-governmental organisations (NGOs) running the Day Care Centres/Units for the Elderly, for meeting the recurrent expenses including remuneration of staff required to take care of the additional places. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, NGOs have the flexibility in deploying the allocated resources to recruit additional staff to meet the service needs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is estimated that the number of cases served under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme will remain as 329 400. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the method used in deriving this figure and whether adjustments have been made taking into account the recent economic condition? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The estimation of the projected number of CSSA cases served was made on the basis of the up-to-date statistics available at the time of preparing the estimates. It so happens that the projected number of CSSA cases served in 2009-10 at 329 400 is the same as that of 2008-09. The 2008-09 Revised Estimate at \$19,081 million includes a provision of one-off additional two months of standard rate payment to CSSA recipients estimated at \$2,078 million. The 2009-10 Estimate of \$18,304 million is, in fact, higher than the Revised Estimate of 2008-09 by 7.7%, if the above one-off provision is to be discounted. If necessary, additional provision would be sought to cover increased payments which might arise from an upsurge in application owing to worsening economic condition.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Estimates that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will further develop and continue to implement the Batterer Intervention Programme (BIP) in 2009-10. Would the Administration please provide the details, the staffing establishment, the estimated expenditure and the anticipated outcome of the BIP?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The two-year pilot project of BIP launched by SWD was completed in March 2008 and it had been proven to be effective in helping abusers change their abusive behaviour. SWD had shared its experience of the pilot project with relevant stakeholders and developed user manuals for use by trained professionals. Following the completion of the pilot project, the Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) of SWD have continued to run the BIP for suitable clients as part of their counselling service. Besides, SWD will further study and develop suitable treatment models for different types of batterers. In 2009-10, an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists will be allocated to FCPSUs and Clinical Psychology Units respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence cases, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence, and further develop the BIP. There is no breakdown of funding specifically allocated to the BIP as it is an integrated component of the counselling service for batterers. It is estimated that about 90 batterers will participate in the programme in 2009-10. We anticipate that the programme will be effective in helping them change their abusive behaviour.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Estimates that the enrolment rate of small group homes will maintain at 94% whereas the cost per place per month will be \$13,752. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the method used in deriving this enrolment rate?
- (b) the breakdown of the cost per place per month?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) We estimated the enrolment rate of small group homes in 2009-10 with reference to a number of factors which include the enrolment rate of the service in 2007-08 and 2008-09 and the anticipated changes in service demand, service provision and operation.

As no drastic change is anticipated, the enrolment rate in the past two years (i.e. 94%) was taken as the estimated enrolment rate in 2009-10.

- (b) The cost per place per month was estimated on the basis of the lump sum grant allocated to service operators to cover personal emoluments and other charges including food cost, insurance, rent and rates, as well as the Administration's expenses in providing the relevant administrative support.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the Budget Speech of the Financial Secretary that an additional recurrent funding of about \$37 million will be provided to residential care homes taking care of infirm elders and those with dementia. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the details, including the expenditure breakdown and the anticipated outcome? and
- (b) whether the provision is for subsidising new services or covering the shortfall in subventions for residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) over the past years?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) To enhance the support for infirm and demented elders staying in subsidised residential care places, an additional recurrent funding of \$37 million will be provided to RCHEs taking care of these elders as Infirmary Care Supplement (ICS) and Dementia Supplement (DS). The additional funding represents a substantial increase of 53% in the provision of ICS and DS.

Among the additional provision of \$37 million, \$20 million will be provided to subvented RCHEs and RCHEs under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) taking care of infirm elders, while \$17 million will be provided to subvented RCHEs and EBPS homes taking care of demented elders. The initiative will enable the RCHEs to employ additional staff, including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nurses (registered or enrolled nurses), health workers and care workers, etc. to enhance the care for infirm and demented elders.

- (b) As mentioned in part (a), the additional funding is for enhancing the care for infirm and demented elders in both subvented RCHEs and EBPS homes.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in the Budget Speech that he would increase recurrent funding by about \$55 million to provide a total of 650 additional subsidised residential care places through the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) and two new contract homes to enhance the care services for the elderly in need. Please provide:

- (a) the categories of the above residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs);
- (b) a breakdown of the funding; and
- (c) detailed information on the two new contract homes, and their respective completion dates, locations as well as estimated expenditures.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

- Reply :
- (a) The additional 650 subsidised residential care places include 150 subsidised places (with 70% nursing home places and 30% care-and-attention (C&A) places) in two newly built contract RCHEs, and 500 subsidised C&A places to be purchased from private RCHEs through EBPS.
 - (b) The additional recurrent funding of about \$55 million includes about \$17 million for the 150 additional subsidised residential care places in two newly built contract RCHEs, and \$38 million for the 500 additional subsidised residential care places to be provided through EBPS.
 - (c) The two newly built contract RCHEs are located in Tung Chung New Town and Sai Ying Pun, and will provide 90 and 60 subsidised residential care places respectively. The construction of the two concerned premises is tentatively scheduled to be completed in late 2009. The estimated

annual expenditures for the Tung Chung New Town and Sai Ying Pun contract RCHEs are \$10.6 million and \$6.7 million respectively.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the 2009-10 Estimate that about 150 additional special child care places will be provided. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the details of the estimated expenditure and the anticipated outcome;
- (b) of the details of the places to be provided, including their geographical distribution; and
- (c) whether it will increase the number of special child care centres? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) The Administration has secured resources to provide 144 additional special child care centre places at an estimated expenditure of \$16.6 million in 2009-10 to meet special child care centre service demand. As a result, there will be a total of 1 688 places at an estimated expenditure of \$214.2 million in 2009-10.

(b) The distribution of these places by districts is provided below :

District	Places
1. Shatin	24
2. Wong Tai Sin	48
3. a site in Wong Tai Sin, pending completion of the necessary preparation work	48
4. a site in Tin Shui Wai, pending completion of necessary preparation work	24

The Administration will continue to identify suitable premises and resources to increase the provision of pre-school rehabilitation service.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Financial Secretary stated in paragraph 121 of the Budget Speech that the first integrated community centre for mental wellness (ICCMW) in Tin Shui Wai will be set up next month. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the details of the estimated expenditure, staffing establishment and anticipated service outcome of this centre?
- (b) whether it will set up more ICCMWs in other districts? If yes, please give the details; If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) of the factors to be taken into account when choosing the locations of ICCMW?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) The annual expenditure of the ICCMW in Tin Shui Wai is estimated to be \$3.9 million in 2009-10. Under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, the NGO operator has the flexibility to deploy the allocated subvention provision to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs. The ICCMW operator has committed to providing adequate social workers, occupational therapists and other supporting staff for the centre. The ICCMW will serve around 450 discharged mental patients/persons with suspected mental health problems and 1 200 family members/carers per year.

- (b) & (c) Subject to the effectiveness of this new service delivery mode, SWD will consider adopting such mode in other districts through revamping the existing community mental health support services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

17 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration introduced a new Anti-violence Programme (AVP) for abusers in 2008 and will continue to implement the programme in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details, the staffing establishment, the estimated expenditure and the anticipated outcomes of the programme in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : Following the commencement of the Domestic Violence (Amendment) Ordinance 2008 on 1 August 2008, the Court may, in granting a non-molestation order under the Domestic Violence Ordinance (DVO), require the abuser to attend a programme approved by the Director of Social Welfare (DSW) that seeks to change the attitude and behaviour of the abuser. For this purpose, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has launched a new AVP, which is psycho-educational in nature and suitable for different types of abusers. So far, DSW has approved seven programmes operated by the non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Annual recurrent funding of \$0.9 million has been earmarked for implementing the AVP. SWD will fund the operation of such approved programmes based on the number of cases referred by the Court. The concerned NGOs have the flexibility to deploy suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs.

The outcomes of the programme in 2009-10 depend on the actual number of referrals from the Court for court-ordered participation of the AVP under the DVO in that year.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under Brief Description of this Programme, the Administration stated that additional day foster care places were provided in 2008. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the estimated number of day foster care places, the details of the expenditure involved and the anticipated outcomes in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Administration has increased the number of day foster care service places from 40 to 50 in 2008-09. In 2009-10, the number of places will remain unchanged. The provision for the service in 2009-10 is \$2.8 million. Various forms of day child care services will continue to be provided to children if their parents have difficulty taking care of them during daytime.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As shown under the targets of this Programme, the number of both family life education workers and family support networking teams in the 2009-10 Estimate remain unchanged. What are the reasons for this? What are the details of the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : Family life education is provided not only by family life education workers at the 22 standalone Family Life Education Units (FLEUs). Integrated Family Service Centres, Integrated Services Centres, Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres and school social work service also provide family life education programmes and related activities as part and parcel of their services. In fact, the majority of family life education programmes are provided by these mainstream service units which may vary the number of their programmes according to service needs. The Administration therefore has no plan to increase the number of standalone FLEUs.

Family Support Networking Teams (FSNTs) provide outreaching services to vulnerable families and refer needy cases to various welfare service units for follow-up as appropriate. To facilitate the early identification of needy families, the Administration has already introduced the Family Support Programme in 2007. We have no plan to increase the number of FSNTs.

The provision for FLEUs and FSNTs in 2009-10 is about \$17.4 million and \$5.9 million respectively.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The number of places in long stay care homes, hostels for moderately mentally handicapped persons and hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons will be increased in 2009-10, but the number of places in care-and-attention (C&A) homes for the aged blind will be maintained at 825. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the reasons for not increasing the number of places in C&A homes for the aged blind?
- (b) whether additional resources will be allocated to C&A homes for the aged blind? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) whether there is any support for persons with visual, hearing and speech impairment. If yes, what are the details and what is the estimated expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) - (b) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides a total of 825 places of C&A homes for the aged blind, with an utilisation rate of 97%. In 2007-08, the waiting time for C&A homes for the aged blind was 6.2 months and as at December 2008, there were 47 applicants waiting for the service with the majority having preferences in specific locations and centres. Since by and large the demand for C&A homes for the aged blind is being met, SWD has no immediate plan to increase the provision of C&A homes for the aged blind service at this stage.

- (c) The community support and vocational rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, including persons with visual, hearing and/or speech impairment, and the estimated provision in 2009-10, are as follows:

Types of Service	Number of Places/ Centres	Estimated Provision (Full Year 2009-10) (\$ million)
<i>Vocational Rehabilitation Services:</i>		
Sheltered Workshop	5 133	233.0
Supported Employment	1 655	43.3
Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre	3 995	127.7
Integrated Vocational Training Centre	453	21.3
On the Job Training Programme for People with Disabilities	432	7.4
Sunnyway – On the Job Training Programme for Young People with Disabilities	311	9.5
<i>Community Support Services:</i>		
Social and Recreational Centre for the Disabled	16 centres	25.4
Rehabilitation & Training Centre for the Visually Impaired	2 centres	9.1
Multi-services Centre for the Hearing Impaired	2 centres	7.0
District Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities	16 centres	111.0
Other community support projects (including parents/relatives resource centre, community-based support projects and self-help organisations)	--	17.4

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 that the Administration will continue to monitor the Visiting Medical Practitioner Scheme (VMPS). Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the details of the scheme and the expenditure involved in 2009-10?
- (b) of the anticipated outcome and the details of the beneficiaries in 2009-10?
- (c) of the geographical distribution of residential rehabilitation homes participating in the scheme in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

- Reply :
- (a) The annual expenditure of the VMPS is about \$8 million. The VMPS was launched in July 2007 to enable subvented residential homes for the disabled (RCHDs) to establish a network with private general medical practitioners to provide primary medical care and support to persons with disabilities living therein with a view to improving their health condition and promoting preventive care.
 - (b) A total of 175 subvented RCHDs, involving 9 342 residents, have participated in the VMPS. On top of achieving the above objective, the VMPS also leads to reduced demand for providing escort and transport services to RCHD residents for medical consultation.
 - (c) The VMPS is provided through the subvented RCHDs located throughout the territory.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration states in the targets that the number of cases supervised per worker per month in the Social Service Centres (SSCs) for ex-offenders is 98, but the number of cases closed per worker per month is six. This reflects that the number of cases supervised per worker per month is much higher than that of cases closed per worker per month. Would the Administration please inform this Committee whether:

- (a) the workers of SSCs have other responsibilities apart from handling the cases? If yes, what are the details?
- (b) additional resources and manpower will be provided to reduce the workload of the workers of SSCs? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The number of cases supervised per worker per month is equal to the sum of (i) the number of cases brought forward from previous months and (ii) the number of cases newly opened/reopened in the month, minus (iii) the number of cases closed in the month.

As the average number of cases newly opened/reopened and that of cases closed per month are very close (five and six respectively), the number of cases supervised per worker per month has been maintained at a stable level.

- (a) Apart from casework service, workers of the SSCs also need to organise community education activities, group activities and mass programmes for ex-offenders regularly.

- (b) The Administration has no plan to increase the manpower and resources for SSCs for the time being. The operating organisation is subvented under the Lump Sum Grant subvention system and can flexibly deploy resources to meet the needs of the ex-offenders.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration states that a two-year pilot project will be launched in 2009-10 to assist the convicted young drug offenders to start afresh. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the details, estimated expenditure and expected outcome of the pilot project;
- (b) whether the Administration will consider expanding the pilot project to cover offenders who have committed other crimes and who are in other age groups. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) Pursuant to the Security Bureau's policy initiative to tackle the drug abuse problem and to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has earmarked additional resources in 2009-10 to launch a two-year pilot project to enhance probation service for drug offenders. Four time-limited Assistant Social Work Officer (ASWO) posts, two each for the Probation Offices serving Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts and Kwun Tong Magistrates' Courts, will be provided. The pilot project will include services and programmes such as probation supervision with enhanced judicial involvement, more focused, structured and intensive treatment and counselling programmes, employment assistance, school guidance, regular urine tests, etc. The aim is to help young drug offenders quit the drug abusing habit and turn over a new leaf.

SWD will work closely with the Judiciary, the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Government Laboratory and other concerned non-governmental organisations to ensure smooth service delivery during the pilot period.

The provision for this pilot project is estimated to be \$1.8 million per annum.

- (b) SWD will evaluate the pilot project in due course. It has no plan to extend the project to other offenders for the time being.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10, the Administration stated that a new integrated children and youth services centre (ICYSC) will be set up in Tseung Kwan O in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the exact location, the numbers of service users, the staff establishment, the target completion date and the expenditure of the centre?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The new ICYSC will be located in Tseung Kwan O Area 86. According to the current planning standard, an ICYSC will serve a population of 12 000 young people aged from six to 24. The new ICYSC is expected to commence operation in the fourth quarter of 2009. The estimated expenditure involved will be about \$5.8 million per annum. The service operator is subvented under the Lump Sum Grant Subvention System and can flexibly deploy resources to meet service needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that there will be 24 401 cases served for school social work and the number of social workers will be increased by one to 487 in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the staff establishment and the scope of work for school social worker; and
- (b) the estimated expenditure in 2009-10.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) & (b) The Social Welfare Department has implemented the policy of ‘one school social worker for each secondary school’ since the 2000/01 school year. School social workers are stationed at schools. They collaborate with stakeholders in other disciplines and perform a wide range of duties including identifying and assisting students with academic, social and emotional problems, maximising their education opportunities, developing their potential and preparing them for responsible adulthood. In 2009-10, the estimated expenditure for school social work service is \$233.7 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

18 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (7) Young People

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration stated that the number of cases served for outreaching social work will be increased by 702 to 14 662 in 2009-10. However, the number of service teams will be maintained at 16. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Will additional manpower be provided for each service team? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Will additional resources be provided to meet service demand? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) & (b) Although the number of outreaching social worker teams (OSWTs) is maintained at the present level, one additional social worker post has already been provided to each of the 16 OSWTs in October 2008, thus enabling the OSWTs to cope with the increase in the number of cases served. The full-year recurrent cost for those additional manpower is about \$4.8 million. The Social Welfare Department has no plan to further increase the manpower provision and resources for OSWTs in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : In anticipation of a rapidly ageing population, would the Government increase the subvention to various types of elderly centres under Programme (3) in 2009-10? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Government will increase the provisions for various types of elderly centres in 2009-10. The provisions for these centres in 2008-09 and 2009-10 as well as the difference are shown below:

Centres/Year	2008-09 (Revised Estimate) (\$ million)	2009-10 (Estimate) (\$ million)	Difference (\$ million)
District Elderly Community Centres	247.8	261.6	+13.8 (+5.6%)
Neighbourhood Elderly Centres	207.3	217.1	+9.8 (+4.7%)
Social Centres for the Elderly	51.5	52.2	+0.7 (+1.4%)
Total:	506.6	530.9	+24.3 (+4.8%)

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration indicated that there will be an additional provision of 12 social workers for Family and Child Protective Services Units (FCPSUs) and two clinical psychologists for Clinical Psychology Units (CPUs) in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the districts to be served by these 14 additional staff members, the estimated expenditure involved and the anticipated outcomes of service enhancement?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : In 2009-10, additional recurrent funding of about \$7.8 million will be earmarked for providing an additional 12 social workers and two clinical psychologists to FCPSUs and CPUs of the Social Welfare Department respectively to enhance frontline professional support in handling domestic violence, provide treatment and support to victims of domestic violence and further develop the batterer intervention programme (BIP). The additional manpower also helps alleviate the workload of social workers in FCPSUs.

The deployment of additional staff will be based on the manpower situation and workload of respective FCPSUs and CPUs in different districts. Apart from continuous implementation and further development of the BIP, it is estimated that the increase in manpower will result in a reduction of the average caseload per social worker in FCPSUs from 45 in 2008-09 to 44 in 2009-10, and the handling of about 120 additional cases per annum by clinical psychologists.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will continue to monitor the progress and performance of the trial employment assistance projects, including the Enhanced New Dawn (ND) Project, the Special Training and Enhancement Programme (My STEP) and the Integrated Employment Assistance Scheme (IEAS) in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the differences between the actual performance and expected performance of various trial employment assistance projects?
- (b) of the estimated expenditure for the above monitoring work?
- (c) whether there will be any follow-up measures after monitoring the progress and performance of each trial employment assistance project? If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) The progress and the expected outcome of the trial employment assistance projects operated by the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are as follows:

- (i) The Enhanced ND Project runs from October 2007 to March 2010, providing ordinary and intensive employment assistance services to all single parents and child carers on CSSA with the youngest child aged 12 to 14. It is expected that at the end of the 30-month implementation period, at least 30% of the ordinarily-assisted participants and 40% of the intensively-assisted participants will secure paid employment with 32 working hours a month. Up to end-January 2009, there were 5 994 participants. Of these, 1 381 have secured paid employment with at least 32 working hours a month.

- (ii) My STEP runs from October 2007 to September 2009 to assist 560 long-term CSSA able-bodied unemployed youths aged between 15 and 29. It is expected that at the end of the two-year implementation period, at least 45% of the project participants will be assisted to secure full-time paid employment. Up to end-January 2009, there were 588 participants. Of these, 244 have secured full-time paid employment.
- (iii) The three-year IEAS was launched since October 2008 to assist all CSSA able-bodied unemployed recipients aged between 15 and 59 to secure full-time paid employment and move towards self-reliance. NGOs operating IEAS will provide ordinary and intensive employment assistance services to all participants. It is expected that at the end of each implementation year, at least 20% of the ordinarily-assisted participants and 40% of the intensively-assisted participants will be assisted to secure full-time paid employment. Up to end-January 2009, a total of 25 270 CSSA able-bodied unemployed recipients have enrolled in the projects of IEAS. Amongst them, 84 have secured full-time paid employment.
- (b) Resources for the monitoring of the employment assistance projects are deployed within SWD. There is no separate estimate on the expenditure involved.
- (c) NGOs operating the above projects are required to achieve performance standards and comply with the service requirements as laid down by SWD in the Service Agreements. SWD monitors the services delivered by NGOs by paying monitoring visits, holding meetings, and studying their monthly statistical returns. In case NGO operators fail to meet the requirements as set out in the Service Agreements, SWD reserves the right to terminate the Agreements.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated that the Administration provided additional places in supported hostels (SHOS), hostels for moderately mentally handicapped persons (HMMH), hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons (HSMH), hostels for severely physically handicapped persons (HSPH) and care and attention homes for severely disabled persons (C&A/SD) in 2008 so as to continue to improve social rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities. Would the Administration please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the respective average waiting time for admission to the above service units in the past five years (i.e. 2004-08)?
- (b) whether additional resources will be allocated to the above service units for providing more places and shortening the waiting time. If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) of the breakdown of the estimated expenditure of the above service units in 2009-10?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a), (b) & (c) The average waiting time, additional provisions and estimated expenditure for 2009-10 for these services are:

Service	Average Waiting Time (months)				Additional provisions in 2009-10 (places)	Estimated expenditure 2009-10 (\$ million)
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08		
SHOS	14.4	22.8	31.2	20.4	150	29.6
HSMH	62.4	68.4	82.8	78.0	155	416.9
HMMH	45.6	49.2	45.6	48.0	155	146.8
HSPH	45.6	42.0	78.0	89.6	45	80.4
C&A/SD	24.0	36.0	40.0	38.4	50	139.9

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	19 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (5) Services for Offenders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated that the cost per resident per month for the probation home and the reformatory school will be \$37,646 in 2009-10, which is \$810 higher than that in 2008-09 and also higher than the cost of other type of hostels. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the reasons for the above differences in cost;
- (b) the details of the above cost; and
- (c) the cost per resident per month for the past five years (i.e. from 2004 to 2008)?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : (a) & (b) The increase of \$810 in the cost per resident per month for the probation home and the reformatory school in the 2009-10 Estimate as compared to the 2008-09 Revised Estimate is mainly due to the anticipated increase in operating expenses.

The probation home and the reformatory school provide statutory services in a confined institution whereas hostels for ex-offenders under this programme provide accommodation and other services in an open setting. These hostels for ex-offenders are run by the subvented sector whereas the probation home and the reformatory school are provided by the Government.

The cost figures of the probation home and the reformatory school reflect the full cost of services rendered by the Social Welfare Department (SWD), which include the cost of staff fringe benefits charged to different expenditure heads and other non-cash expenditure such as depreciation, in addition to the expenditure reflected under SWD. On the other hand, the cost figures of the hostels for ex-offenders are the net total cash provision required after taking fee income into account. No direct comparison of costs between the Government and the subvented sector should be drawn.

- (c) The cost per resident per month for the probation home and the reformatory school in the past five years is as follows:

Financial Year	Probation Home \$	Reformatory School \$
2004-05 (Actual)#	30,391	50,925
2005-06 (Actual)	33,565	62,764
2006-07 (Actual)	30,861	50,380
2007-08 (Actual)	35,586^	
2008-09 (Revised Estimate)	36,836^	

The cost figures for 2004-05 reflect only the provision under the control of the Director of Social Welfare. They do not cover the cost of fringe benefits, which is charged to different expenditure heads. With effect from 2005-06, cost figures were prepared on a full cost basis as explained in (a) and (b) above.

^ Due to the re-location and co-location of the probation homes, reformatory school and remand homes/places of refuge to a new residential training complex, namely the Tuen Mun Children and Juvenile Home (TMCJH), in 2007, the same unit cost is applicable to all cases under the care of TMCJH.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (1) Family and Child Welfare

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : It is stated in the targets that the number of places offered by residential homes for children operated by subvented organisations will increase by 28 to 1 695 in 2009-10. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the average cost per resident per month;
- (b) the male to female ratio of the 1 695 places;
- (c) the breakdown of the estimated expenditure involved; and
- (d) the distribution of the additional places?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

- Reply :
- (a) The average cost per place per month of residential homes for children in 2008-09 is about \$9,500.
 - (b) The male to female ratio is not available because some of the places are not gender-specific.
 - (c) The provision in 2009-10 for the service is \$199.1 million.
 - (d) The Administration will invite operators of residential homes for children to provide the 28 additional places through in-situ expansion in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : 170 – Social Welfare Department

Programme : (3) Services for Elders

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : According to the reply by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare on 14 January 2009 in response to Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che's written question, the number of applicants waitlisting for care-and-attention (C&A) home places and nursing home (NH) places are 17 810 and 6 418 respectively, and the average waiting time for these two types of places are 21 and 40 months respectively.

- (a) Does the Administration know the number of elders who passed away while waitlisted for NH places in 2008?
- (b) Will the Administration consider increasing the number of C&A places and NH places?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yuk-man

- Reply :
- (a) In 2008, 1 847 elders passed away while waitlisted for subsidised NH places.
 - (b) The 2009-10 Estimate has earmarked additional recurrent funding to provide 650 additional subsidised residential care places, including 150 subsidised places (with 70% NH places and 30% C&A places) in two newly built contract residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs); and 500 subsidised C&A places to be purchased from private RCHEs through the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will conduct open tender exercises to select operators for five newly built contract RCHEs from now till 2011-12. A total of 230 subsidised NH places and 98 C&A places will be provided in these RCHEs. Besides, SWD has earmarked sites in 12 development projects for the construction of new contract RCHEs, and will proceed with the open tender process in phases to select operators for these RCHEs upon the completion of construction. SWD will continue to identify suitable

premises for development of new contract RCHEs with a view to further increasing the supply of subsidised residential care places.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)281

Question Serial No.

0885

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

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Administration plans to procure six additional rehabuses in 2009-10.
What will be the estimated increase in passenger trips for the scheduled route (SR) services upon procurement of the buses?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

Four of the six additional rehabuses will be used to provide scheduled route (SR) services. As each rebus carries about ten passengers, the total number of additional passengers that can be carried on SR services per day will be about 40. If the demand for the services remains at the present level, the four additional rehabuses will be able to cater for the applicants currently on the waiting list of SR services (a total of 35 persons).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ALAN WONG** _____

Post Title _____ **Commissioner for Transport** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2009** _____

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)282

Question Serial No.

0886

Head : 186 – Transport Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The estimated financial provision for transport services for persons with disabilities in 2009-10 is 16% lower than the Revised Estimate for 2008-09. Please explain the reasons for the decrease in financial provision.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

The decrease in provision under Programme (5) is mainly due to lower capital expenditure on procurement of rehabuses as a result of the reduced requirements for replacement rehabuses in 2009-10, partly offset by the additional recurrent provision for operating the eight and six additional new rehabuses acquired in 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ALAN WONG** _____

Post Title _____ **Commissioner for Transport** _____

Date _____ **18 March 2009** _____

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)283

Question Serial No.

1746

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

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Rehabus services have always been in great demand. According to self-help groups for persons with disabilities (PWDs), off-peak rebus services will be available for bookings made at least one month in advance, while bookings for peak-hour services are often unsuccessful. This has caused PWDs much inconvenience. Will the Administration advise the number and percentage of unsuccessful bookings of rebus services? In 2009-10, approximately \$7.7 million of additional provision will be made for the procurement of six additional rebuses and the replacement of four old rebuses. What will be the estimated decrease in the number and percentage of unsuccessful bookings of rebus services as a result of the additional services? Does the Administration have any long-term plan to meet the demand for such service?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply :

A total of 10 034 orders for the dial-a-ride (DAR) services were declined in 2008, representing 9.3% of total orders received.

Two out of the six additional rebuses will be specifically deployed to strengthen the DAR services in 2009-10. Assuming that the demand for DAR services remains at the current level, the two additional rebuses can help reduce the declined orders by about 20%. The Rebus operator will also flexibly redeploy rebuses used for scheduled route services to help cater for the service demand for DAR services where feasible and appropriate during the inter-peak period. Furthermore, with the availability of more accessible public transport services and facilities, PWDs at present have more choices on the mode of transport to travel around the territory than before. The Transport Department will continue to review the fleet size of rebuses annually, having regard to the demand for the service.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)283

Question Serial No.

1746

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ALAN WONG

Post Title _____

Commissioner for Transport

Date _____

16 March 2009

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)284

Question Serial No.

2830

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

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : According to Paragraph 119 of the Budget Speech, the Administration will “provide additional funding of about \$7.7 million to increase the number of Rehabuses by acquiring six new buses and replacing four old ones” to strengthen the rebus services. What is the current average waiting time for rebus services for persons with disabilities and senior citizens, and what will be the estimated decrease in waiting time upon the procurement and replacement of the said buses?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

Rebus operation comprises scheduled route (SR) services and dial-a-ride (DAR) services. Four out of the six new rehabuses will be added to SR services and the remaining two will be deployed on DAR services.

For SR services, the average waiting time is about two months, allowing for adjustments to the boarding / disembarking schedules and locations after a suitable route with seat available is identified. If the demand for the services remains at the present level, the four additional rehabuses will be able to fully cater for the applicants currently on the waiting list of SR services (a total of 35 persons).

DAR services are operated on a first-come-first-served basis and may be booked in advance without time restriction. Demand on DAR services also varies at different time and on different days. As such, it is difficult to ascertain the number of days in advance required to secure the provision of DAR services. Assuming that the demand for DAR services remains at the current level, the two additional rehabuses can help reduce the declined orders by about 20%.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)284

Question Serial No.

2830

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2009

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)285

Question Serial No.

2870

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

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Regarding the above Programme, will the Administration advise on the following:

- (a) What will be the estimated percentage increase in annual patronage of the rebus services upon the procurement of six additional buses next year (i.e. 2009-10)? Will the six additional rebus fully meet the service demand of persons with disabilities (PWDs)?
- (b) What were the respective expenditure breakdown of the subventions for special transport facilities for PWDs under Subhead 000 Operational expenses during the past two years (i.e. 2007 and 2008) and how effective were they? What are the details of the estimated expenditure for the coming year (i.e. 2009)?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

- (a) Upon the procurement of six additional buses, the number of passenger trips for rebus in 2010 is expected to increase by about 6% compared with that of the previous year.

Four out of the six new rebus will be added to scheduled route (SR) services and the remaining two will be deployed on dial-a-ride (DAR) services. If the demand for the services remains at the present level, the four additional rebus will be able to fully cater for the applicants currently on the waiting list of SR services (a total of 35 persons) and the remaining two additional rebus can help reduce the number of declined orders for DAR service by about 20%. The Rebus operator will also flexibly redeploy rebus used for SR services to help cater for the service demand for DAR services where feasible and appropriate during the inter-peak period. Furthermore, with the availability of more accessible public transport services and facilities, PWDs at present have more choices on the mode of transport to travel around the territory than before. The Transport Department will continue to review the fleet size of rebus annually, having regard to the demand for the service.

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)285

Question Serial No.

2870

- (b) The provision refers to the subvention to the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation for subsidizing its rehabus operation. The breakdown of the subvention in 2007-08 to 2009-10 is as follows:

	2007-08 (Actual)	2008-09 (Revised Estimate)	2009-10 (Estimate)
(i) Personal emoluments	\$20.8 million	\$24.3 million	\$26.8 million
(ii) Other operating costs	\$7.9 million	\$9.4 million	\$10.4 million
Total amount of subvention	\$28.7 million	\$33.7 million	\$37.2 million

Rehabus provided services for 615 468 and 640 064 passenger-trips in 2007 and 2008 respectively. The increase in subvention is to meet additional costs arising from the operation of additional rehabuses and salary adjustment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 17 March 2009

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)286

Question Serial No.

2216

Head : 186 – Transport Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The Government will provide additional funding of about \$7.7 million to procure six additional rehabuses and to replace four old rehabuses. With the current cost of a vehicle at around \$420,000, the Government's estimated average capital cost of a rebus at \$770,000 is significantly higher. Please explain the notable cost difference. As regards the four old vehicles, are they still in normal operation? Can these vehicles be repaired rather than replaced so that more resources can be saved?

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The cost of a rebus in 2008 was about \$700,000 which included \$400,000 for vehicle price and \$300,000 for installation of various ancillary facilities such as wheelchair lift, wheelchair tie-down and passenger restraint systems. A 10% contingency provision is included to cater for possible fluctuations in exchange rates and vehicle prices.

Rehabuses are required to undergo annual vehicle examination to ensure their roadworthiness. The vehicles recommended for replacement in 2009 are beyond economical repair.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 18 March 2009

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)287

Question Serial No.

2217

Head : 186 – Transport Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : As mentioned in the Budget Speech, additional funding of \$7.7 million will be provided for acquisition and replacement of rehabuses. However, provision for 2009-10 is \$8.8 million (15.9%) lower than the Revised Estimate for 2008-09. Please provide the reasons for reduction.

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

The decrease in provision under Programme (5) is mainly due to lower capital expenditure on procurement of rehabuses as a result of the reduced requirements for replacement rehabuses in 2009-10, partly offset by the additional recurrent provision for operating the eight and six additional new rehabuses acquired in 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 18 March 2009

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)288

Question Serial No.

2218

Head : 186 – Transport Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Please provide the number of booking orders for the rebus dial-a-ride services that were declined in 2007-08.

Asked by : Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply :

10 034 orders for rebus dial-a-ride services were declined in 2008, representing about 9.3% of the total orders received.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ALAN WONG _____

Post Title _____ Commissioner for Transport _____

Date _____ 18 March 2009 _____

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)289

Question Serial No.

0869

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

Programme : (5) Transport Services for Persons with Disabilities

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Transport

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Under Programme (5), the financial provision for 2009-10 will be \$8.8 million lower than the Revised Estimate for 2008-09. However, there is still a great demand for the rebus services among persons with disabilities (PWDs). Will the Administration provide information on the following:

- (a) Currently, if PWDs want to use the rebus dial-a-ride (DAR) services, how many days in advance should they book the services by telephone to secure the provision of such services?
- (b) How many booking orders for DAR services were declined in 2008-09?
- (c) The indicators under Programme (5) show an estimated increase of 26 000 passenger trips for DAR services in 2009. Why is there not a corresponding increase in the number of buses to be deployed for the DAR services?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) The DAR service is operated on a first-come-first-served basis and may be booked in advance without time restriction. Demand on DAR services also varies at different time and on different days. As such, it is difficult to ascertain the number of days in advance required by the PWDs to secure the provision of DAR services.
- (b) A total of 10 034 orders for DAR services were declined in 2008, representing 9.3% of total orders received.

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

Reply Serial No.

LWB(WW)289

Question Serial No.

0869

- (c) While 14 additional rehabuses were acquired in 2008, their arrival time varied. Hence, the operation effect of these vehicles was not fully reflected in 2008 as the vehicles were deployed for services in different months of the year. The estimated passenger trips of 387 500 for 2009, including an increase of 26 000 passenger trips over 2008 for DAR services, reflect the full-year operation effect of these additional vehicles in 2009.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Commissioner for Transport

Date 16 March 2009

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

Head : Lotteries Fund

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Out of the estimated expenditure of \$1,808,528,000 from Lotteries Fund for 2009-10, has the Administration estimated how much will be used for meeting the expenditure on minor repair works for residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs)?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) may apply for Block Grant allocation under the Lotteries Fund for, among others, minor repair works in subvented service units including RCHEs. As NGOs have the flexibility to use the Block Grant allocation to carry out minor repair works in various kinds of service units, we have no information on the estimated expenditure on repair works for subvented RCHEs in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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

Head : Lotteries Fund

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : The 2009-10 Budget has made a provision of \$1,136,874,000 under "Additional Commitments" of the Lotteries Fund. As the expenditure under this Head was \$0 in 2008-09, would the Administration please explain the reasons for this provision?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Provision under Head 361 – Additional Commitments is to meet expenditure which may be required during the year in excess of amounts provided under Head 341-Non Recurrent Grants, but which cannot be specifically allocated or determined with precision during the preparation of the Estimates. When, from time to time during the year, additional provision is approved under Head 341, an equivalent sum will be deleted under Head 361.

As there will be no additional expenditure in excess of the amounts already provided under Head 341 by the end of 2008-09, the Revised Estimate for 2008-09 under Head 361 is \$0.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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

Head : Lotteries Fund

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : (a) Are the following organisations/services/units eligible for applying grants from the Lotteries Fund (LF)?

- charitable organisations (approved by Inland Revenue Department under S.88 of Inland Revenue Ordinance) which do not receive regular subvention from the Social Welfare Department (hereafter called “non-subvented non-governmental organisations (NGOs)”);
- non-subvented service units (operated by subvented NGOs or non-subvented NGOs) which provide services of the same nature of subvented services, e.g. neighbour elderly centre; and
- non-subvented services (operated by subvented NGOs or non-subvented NGOs) which are proven to be providing quality welfare services to vulnerable groups but not totally of the same nature of any subvented services.

(b) If they are eligible, how many of them being granted LF in the past three years (2006-07 to 2008-09)? How many of them were turned down and the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) Non-subvented NGOs or non-subvented service units/services operated by subvented NGOs may apply for grants from the LF, subject to their meeting the criteria stipulated in the LF Manual. The applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis having regard to their individual merits.

(b) In the past three years, LF grants were approved for 26 non-subvented social welfare services operated by subvented NGOs or non-subvented NGOs. Three LF applications from non-subvented NGOs were turned down because they did not meet the criteria.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009