

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by
Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11**

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

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-LWB(WW)01	S040	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	141	Women's Interests
S-LWB(WW)02	S041	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
S-LWB(WW)03	S042	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Services for Elders
S-LWB(WW)04	SV020	CHEUNG Kwok-che	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
S-LWB(WW)05	SV021	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Social Security
S-LWB(WW)06	S044	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
S-LWB(WW)07	SV022	PAN Pey-chyou	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services
S-LWB(WW)08	S045	WONG Kwok-kin	170	Family and Child Welfare
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S-LWB(WW)10	S039	WONG Sing-chi	170	Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.
S-LWB(WW)01

Question Serial No.
S040

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 reply to a question on the Budget (Serial No.: LWB(WW)039), more than 4 300 civil servants of different grades and ranks have attended half-day or full-day classroom gender-related training so far. What is the percentage of these officers in the total number of civil servants who have yet to be trained? Is there any timetable for full implementation of the training programmes?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) has been providing gender-related training to civil servants to raise their awareness of gender-related issues and their understanding of the concept of gender mainstreaming. Over 4 300 civil servants of different grades and ranks attended half-day or full-day classroom gender-related training. Besides large seminars organised by the Civil Service Training and Development Institute which are open to civil servants of all grades and ranks, we have also collaborated with various departments including the Department of Health, Housing Department, Architectural Services Department and Labour Department to arrange tailor-made programmes for their staff. Gender-related training has been included as part of the induction training for all newly recruited Administrative Officers since 2001, and will be included as part of the induction training programme for Executive Officers with effect from 2010-2011. Moreover, we have provided gender-related training to the Gender Focal Points, and the Customs and Excise Department and the Social Welfare Department have incorporated gender-related training into their regular training programme. In 2010-11, LWB will continue with its on-going efforts to provide gender-related training to civil servants.

The Secretary for Labour and Welfare issued a memorandum in February 2010 to all Directors of Bureaux and Heads of Departments on the importance of applying gender mainstreaming concept in different policy and programmes areas. The memorandum also outlined the latest work of the Administration in promoting gender mainstreaming

and solicited the support of bureaux and departments in further applying the gender mainstreaming checklist and the concept itself.

Aside from classroom training, the LWB has developed a web-portal on gender mainstreaming for reference by all civil servants in early 2009. The web-portal serves as a resource and experience-sharing platform to help enhance understanding of the concept of gender mainstreaming for all civil servants. It comprises information about gender mainstreaming and its application and hyperlinks to useful website. It also sets out nearly 40 examples of different policy or programme areas that have applied gender mainstreaming. We have also recently launched an online training course on gender mainstreaming and gender-related issues under the web-portal to assist all civil servants to understand the gender mainstreaming concept and other related knowledge in a more flexible manner.

With the above multi-pronged approach, it is expected that more and more civil servants will be able to receive gender-related training and be equipped to take into account the needs and perspectives of both genders in the course of their daily work. Therefore, the number of officers attending classroom gender-related training should not be taken as the sole indicator of the extent that the gender mainstreaming concept has spread within the Government.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	PAUL TANG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Date	9.4.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)02

Question Serial No.

S041

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 question about the Pilot Scheme on Visiting Pharmacist Services (Pilot Scheme), the supplementary questions are as follows:

- (a) What will be the member composition of the committee responsible for the review of the Pilot Scheme?
- (b) How to increase the transparency of the committee work and what are its roles?
- (c) What are the criteria for selecting the pharmacist organisation and residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs)?
- (d) How much will the participating RCHEs need to pay as operation fees?
- (e) How to formulate the evaluation on effectiveness? Who will conduct the evaluation on effectiveness?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : (a) & (b) We have commissioned the Hong Kong Pharmaceutical Care Foundation (the Foundation) as the implementation agency of the Pilot Scheme. The Government will set up a Steering Committee comprising representatives from the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB), the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and other relevant departments to oversee its implementation.

Upon the completion of its services, the Foundation will arrange an independent institute to conduct an evaluation and submit the evaluation report to the Steering Committee for reviewing the effectiveness of the Pilot Scheme, especially in enhancing the RCHEs' drug management capability.

- (c) The Foundation was selected having regard to a number of factors such as its experience and capability in providing visiting pharmacist services to RCHEs. As regards the selection of RCHEs for participating in the Pilot Scheme, a selection committee comprising representatives from LWB, SWD and other relevant departments will be set up to select the most suitable RCHEs in terms of their readiness, strengths and limitations, capability of acting in concert with the visiting pharmacists and possible benefits from the service, etc.
- (d) To promote a sense of ownership, participating RCHEs will be required to pay about 30% of the total service costs (i.e. ranging from \$650 to \$4,750 per month), depending on the number of elderly residents in RCHEs. The remaining 70% will be subsidised by the Government.
- (e) The evaluation will be conducted by an independent institute to be identified. We will further work with the Foundation on the evaluation methodology and parameters.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	8 April 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)03

Question Serial No.

S042

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 reply numbered LWB(WW)081, the supplementary question is as follows:

It is stated in the reply that the number of cases in (A), i.e. “Number of qualified cases as assessed by medical officer” is the same as (B), i.e. “Number of cases with allocation of supplement”, that is 100% approval. However, the current infirm care supplement (ICS) support level is only 60 to 70%. Would the Administration please explain the ways to derive this figure of 100%?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The eligibility of elders for ICS is assessed and confirmed by the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams of the Hospital Authority. According to the number of qualified infirm elders in individual residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) so confirmed, the Social Welfare Department will allocate ICS to the concerned RCHEs on a pro-rata basis to enhance the support and care of all qualified beneficiaries thereof.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

7 April 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)04

Question Serial No.

SV020

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 provide information on the amount of resources provided for each of the integrated community centre for mental wellness (ICCMW) after the revamp of the existing services and the setting up of ICCMWs in 18 districts with the additional annual provision of \$70 million.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will pool together the existing resources at about \$65 million of the community mental health support services (CMHSS) and the additional annual provision of about \$70 million with a view to revamping the CMHSS for setting up the ICCMWs in all the 18 districts throughout the territory. SWD is in the course of consulting the non-governmental organisations operating CMHSS on the implementation of this new initiative.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

7 April 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)05

Question Serial No.

SV021

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 information on special measures taken to meet the welfare needs of the residents of Sau Mau Ping Estate which had the highest number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) households due to the reason of old age, and the highest number of Disability Allowance (DA) and Old Age Allowance (OAA) recipients amongst all public housing estates.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply : Eligible residents including elders and persons with disabilities in Sau Mau Ping Estate may apply for CSSA, DA and OAA as appropriate. In addition, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and relevant stakeholders have implemented the following initiatives to meet their welfare needs:

- An Integrated Family Service Centre operated by SWD to provide family services for local residents including elders and persons with disabilities.
- A Neighbourhood Elderly Centre (NEC) operated by a non-governmental organisation (NGO) on subventions from SWD to provide social activities for elders who are capable of taking care of themselves.
- A residential care home for the elderly to provide subsidised residential care places for frail elders although it does not only target elders in Sau Mau Ping Estate.
- The NEC and a District Elderly Community Centre in the vicinity are also providing outreaching and support services for hidden elders living in Sau Mau Ping Estate.
- The Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project has been extended to the Sau Mau Ping area to help prevent elder abuse and elderly suicide since October 2008 and April 2009 respectively.

- A Families Networking Project has been in place in recent years to collect views from local stakeholders in the Sau Mau Ping area on the service needs of residents for improvement of welfare service delivery. Based on the views collected, SWD has collaborated with some NGOs in Kwun Tong District to organise talks and set up booths on welfare services so that residents of Sau Mau Ping Estate may know where to seek assistance in case of need.
- In order to further promote care and support for residents of Sau Mau Ping Estate, the United Christian Hospital has launched a pilot project named “Networking the Neighbourhood - Steering for a Healthy Community” (「愛里有你」- 健康和諧愛心邨) with funding from the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund since October 2009 to recruit volunteers and mobilise them to pay visits and render assistance to needy residents (in particular elderly residents) in the vicinity.
- For persons with disabilities, a range of pre-school, day training, vocational rehabilitation services and community support services, including the Community Rehabilitation Day Centre and the District Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities set up since January 2009, have been in place to provide services for residents in the vicinity. There is also a Day Activity Centre cum Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons serving persons with severe mental handicap in Sau Mau Ping Estate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	8 April 2010

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

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)06

Question Serial No.

S044

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 district support centres for persons with disabilities (DSCs), would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What was the provision allocated to each of the 16 DSCs run by the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in 2009-10?
- (b) How many social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, clinical psychologists, nurses and other supporting staff are employed by respective DSCs? What is the average salary for each post?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : (a) & (b) The estimated expenditure of the 16 DSCs in 2009-10 is \$104.7 million. The NGOs operating the 16 DSCs are subvented under the Lump Sum Grant subvention mode. The NGOs have the flexibility in deploying the subvention to arrange suitable staffing to ensure service quality and meet service needs. The operating NGOs have committed to providing social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, clinical psychologists, nurses and other supporting staff for the DSCs.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

7 April 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)07

Question Serial No.

SV022

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 provide information on the findings of the review on the performance of the integrated community centre for mental wellness (ICCMW) in Tin Shui Wai.

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply : The non-governmental organisation (NGO) operating the ICCMW in Tin Shui Wai has commissioned an academic institution to conduct a review on the service mode and effectiveness of the ICCMW. The review has just been completed at end-March 2010 and the NGO will consider the findings in reviewing its services at the ICCMW. SWD will relay to the NGO concerned the honourable Member's interest in its review findings.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

7 April 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)08

Question Serial No.

S045

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 Victim Support Programme, the Administration indicated that the programme will include elders abused by their spouses which account for most of the elder abuse cases in Hong Kong. In this connection, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) what is the percentage of these elders (those abused by their spouses) to the number of elder abuse cases in Hong Kong?
- (b) are there any supportive measures targetted at the elder abuse cases of non-spouse battering nature? If yes, please give the details.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) Based on information collected by the Central Information System on Elder Abuse Cases of the Social Welfare Department (SWD), out of a total of 465 newly reported elder abuse cases in 2009, 313 (i.e. 67.3%) were battered spouse cases.

- (b) For elder abuse cases of non-spouse battering nature, the registered social workers responsible for handling such cases will be assigned to conduct social enquiry and take care of the welfare of the victims according to the Procedural Guidelines for Handling Elder Abuse Cases. Various welfare service units of both SWD and non-governmental organisations, including integrated family service centres, district elderly community centres, neighbourhood elderly centres, crisis intervention centres and medical social services units, etc. will provide a range of services for the victims and the perpetrators of elder abuse as appropriate. These services include crisis intervention, hotline counselling, financial and accommodation assistance, referral for respite services and emergency residential care and refuge centres, etc.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Patrick T K Nip
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	7 April 2010

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

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)09

Question Serial No.

S038

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 reply numbered LWB(WW)291 that with an additional annual provision of \$70 million, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will revamp the existing community mental health support services (CMHSS). Please give details of the plan for using the provision.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : SWD will pool together the existing resources at about \$65 million of the CMHSS and the additional annual provision of about \$70 million with a view to revamping the CMHSS for setting up the integrated community centres for mental wellness in all the 18 districts throughout the territory. SWD is in the course of consulting the non-governmental organisations operating CMHSS on the implementation of this new initiative.

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Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

7 April 2010

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

Reply Serial No.

S-LWB(WW)10

Question Serial No.

S039

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 reply numbered LWB(WW)295 that as the “Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise” Projects (3E’s Projects) are subject to non-governmental organisations’ submission of proposals, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) cannot project the location, expenditure, nature of work and job opportunities to be created for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in 2010-11. Please inform this Committee whether SWD will take the initiative to communicate with the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for coordination and planning. If yes, please give the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The Marketing Consultancy Office (Rehabilitation) (the Office) of SWD assists NGOs in setting up and operating social enterprises under the 3E’s Projects, including actively offering them advice on the formulation of sustainable business plans. In this regard, the Office has been working closely with the NGOs concerned for the promotion of 3E’s Projects and sharing of the latest market information. It will also continue to enlist the assistance of the government departments, public organisations and commercial corporations in identifying suitable venues with favourable terms to facilitate the NGOs concerned in setting up social enterprises as appropriate.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Patrick T K Nip

Director of Social Welfare

7 April 2010