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政府總部
民政事務局

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By fax

18 November 2009

(Attn: Ms. Betty Fong)
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Betty,

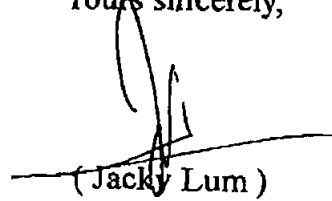
At the Home Affairs Panel Meeting on 19 October 2009, Hon Chan Hak-kan raised an enquiry regarding the Government's subvention to youth uniformed groups. Further information is set out below.

The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) has been providing recurrent subvention to youth uniformed groups (UGs) to allow them to provide non-formal education services to support the development of youth with the objectives of promoting positive values among young people; enhancing their understanding of Chinese culture and heritage; encouraging their participation in voluntary and community work; broadening their international perspective; and promoting leadership training among them. In 2000/01, the responsibility of management of subvention to youth UGs was transferred from the Social Welfare Department to HAB. The subvention levels to individual UGs were determined with reference to the organisation's recognised expenditure in terms of staffing establishment, operating expenses, rent and rates. After the handover, HAB in general makes across-the-board adjustments to the amount of subvention to youth UGs mainly according to the overall level of available resources; for example, in 2008/09 there was a 5% increase in recurrent subvention to the UGs. In addition to the provision of recurrent subvention, HAB also provides one-off funding according to the need of UGs as far as

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there are available resources; for example, in 2000/01, 2001/02, 2002/03, 2005/06, HAB provided one-off funding to the youth UGs for purchasing equipment and organising one-off projects (such as organising training camps and visits to the mainland). In 2008/09, HAB also granted a provision of \$290,000 to each of the subvented UGs for them to organise youth exchange activities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jacky Lum', written over a horizontal line.

(Jacky Lum)
for Secretary for Home Affairs