



Labour Department (Headquarters)

勞工處 (總處)

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15 November 2013

Ms Anita SIT
Clerk to Panel
Panel on Public Service
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms SIT,

**Panel on Public Service
Implementation of paternity leave in the Government and
Government-funded public bodies**

Thank you for your letter of 5 November 2013 addressed to the Secretary for Labour and Welfare. I am authorised to reply on his behalf.

The terms of employment of staff working in public organisations are employment matters between the organisations as employers and their employees. Having regard to their own circumstances, public organisations are free to decide whether to adopt any family-friendly employment practices, including the granting of paternity leave to employees. We do not have information on paternity leave provided by Government-funded public bodies to their employees.

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The Administration is now preparing a Bill on providing paid paternity leave to working fathers with newborn child. Upon enactment and coming into effect of the proposed legislation, all eligible employees (including those working in Government-funded public bodies) will be entitled to statutory paternity leave. We plan to introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council in the latter half of the current legislative session.

Yours sincerely,



(Charles Hui)
for Commissioner for Labour

c.c. Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP (Chairman)
(Fax : 2810 0358)

Mr TANG Kwok-wai, Paul, JP, Secretary for the Civil Service
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