

Our Ref : SWD/CPC/PIO - 3/2(C) Tel No : 2116 5022 Fax No : 2116 9070

## 30 March 2015

Dr Hon Fernando Cheung Chiu-hung Room 1017, Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Dr Hon Cheung,

## Special Meetings of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council to Examine the Estimates of Expenditure 2015-16

## Questions Serial No. R062, R134, R135 and R136

In respect of the above questions which have been ruled by the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council as "out of order" questions, our replies are provided below -

R062

- Question: For the past 10 years, the number of registered social workers subsidised by the government in Hong Kong by service areas (family, medical, youth, community work ...) and the amount of funding involved.
- Reply: The Social Welfare Department (SWD) does not have the information required.

<u>R134</u>

- Question: Please provide the number of registered social workers in Hong Kong by educational qualification for the past 10 years.
- Reply: The Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) is responsible for matters relating to the registration of social workers and disciplinary control of the professional activities of registered social workers. As SWRB is an independent statutory body and the registration of social workers is outside the purview of SWD, we do not have the information required.

R135

Question: Please provide the number of applications for registration and renewal of registration of social workers accepted by the SWRB for the past 10 years.

Reply: Same as R134.

## <u>R136</u>

Question: Please provide the number of cases who were awarded social work degrees and become eligible for registration as registered social workers, by educational qualifications (associate degree, bachelor degree, master degree) for the past 10 years.

Reply:

: According to information provided by local training institutions on the number of graduates of social work training programmes <sup>Note 1</sup>, the figures for the past 10 years are provided in the table below -

| Year Note 2 | Number of        | Number of       | Number of     |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|             | associate degree | bachelor degree |               |
|             |                  | Ŭ               | master degree |
|             | graduates        | graduates       | graduates     |
| 2004        | 125              | 310             | 55            |
| 2,005       | 158              | 275             | 59            |
| 2006        | 169              | 311             | 137           |
| 2007        | 357              | 276             | 148           |
| 2008        | 357              | 293             | 194           |
| 2009        | 319              | 283             | 201           |
| 2010        | 360              | 360             | 205           |
| 2011        | 378              | 341             | 229           |
| 2012        | 440              | 321             | 280           |
| 2013        | 492              | 344             | 296           |

Note 1: Social work training programmes refer to those leading to qualifications recognized by the Social Workers Registration Board for the purpose of registering the holders as registered social workers.

Note 2: Information for the year of 2014 is to be collected and not available at the present stage.

Should you have any enquiries, please contact me direct.

Yours sincerely,

(Yam Mun-ho) for Director of Social Welfare

c.c.: <u>Clerk to the Finance Committee of LegCo</u> LegCo Team of FSTB(TsyB)