

香港特別行政區政府
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



The Government of
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Administration Wing,
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office

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1 June 2015

Miss Flora TAI
Clerk to the House Committee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Tai,

Special House Committee meeting on 24 April 2015

Further to our reply dated 19 May 2015 on the verbatim transcript of the captioned special meeting, I write to provide the Government's response on whether any assessment has been conducted on the impact of extending the working life of employees on the number of job vacancies in the local employment market and if so, details of the assessment results.

The number of job vacancies in future is subject to the interplay of a host of factors including the macroeconomic environment, the development outlook of specific industries and sectors, the availability of qualified workers in the market, etc. As these factors are highly dynamic, it would be difficult to project with precision the future number of vacancies especially on an extended period. Hence, the Government has not been able to assess the impact of extending the retirement age on the number of job vacancies.

In drawing up the strategies and initiatives of population policy, we noted that the labour force participation rate for older people in Hong Kong was low compared to that of other economies and came to a view that encouraging older people to stay in work or rejoin the workforce can help mitigate the decline in labour force which was anticipated to emerge after 2018. We have therefore put forward specific measures under the 2015 Policy Address to facilitate older workers to stay longer in the workforce.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Christine Wai)
for Director of Administration

c.c. Policy and Project Co-ordination Unit, Chief Secretary for
Administration's Private Office (Attn: Ms Angelina Kwan)