

**Labour Department (Headquarters)****勞工處(總處)**

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9 October 2015

Miss Betty Ma  
Clerk to the Panel on Manpower  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Ma,

**Reply to the Panel on Manpower on follow-up actions required**

On 14 July 2015, the Legislative Council Panel on Manpower discussed the situation of occupational health in Hong Kong and requested the Labour Department (LD) to provide further information on consultations by its occupational health clinics; workplace inspections conducted through referrals from the clinics; and the establishment of occupational health staff undertaking such inspections. I now set out my reply as follows.


2. In 2014, a total of 1 804 new patients sought consultations at the occupational health clinics of LD. Among them, 391 patients had lower limb musculoskeletal disorders, including 324 cases which were related to work or aggravated by work.
3. In 2014, a total of 59 workplace inspections were conducted through referrals from LD's occupational health clinics.
4. The establishment of LD occupational health staff undertaking workplace inspections was 22 in 2014, including one occupational health officer, two occupational health nurses and 19 occupational hygienists. In the same year, the number of workplaces and employees in Hong Kong were about 210 000 and 3.8 million respectively.

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- 2 -

5. The occupational safety and health (OSH) legislation and workplace inspection work vary in different places, and are often affected by factors such as economic structure, work practices, cultural background and geographic environment of the places. It would be inappropriate to compare the establishment of occupational health staff undertaking workplace inspections in Hong Kong with the situation in other places.

Yours sincerely,

  
(CEHUGN Hon-chung)  
for Commissioner for Labour