

政府總部
勞工及福利局
香港添馬添美道
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LABOUR AND WELFARE BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

Central Government Offices
Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar, Hong Kong

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來函檔號 Your Ref.:

14 May 2015

Mr Colin CHUI
Clerk to Panel
Panel on Welfare Services
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Chui,

**Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services
Follow-up Actions for Meeting on 13 April 2015**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services held on 13 April 2015, some Members requested the Government to provide information on the number of recipients under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme who were paying a rent higher than the maximum rates of the rent allowance (MRA) under the CSSA Scheme before and after the increase of MRA by 6.7% in February 2015 and the launch of the “Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing” programme by the Community Care Fund (the one-off subsidy under CCF) respectively.

The relevant information is at **Annex** for Members’ reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stella Chang', with a checkmark at the end.

(Miss Stella CHANG)
for Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Household Statistics¹ on Rent Allowance under the CSSA Scheme**(1) Household statistics as at end-December 2014**

As at end-December 2014	Actual rent <u>less than or equal to</u> MRA	Actual rent <u>exceeding</u> MRA	Total
Public housing	130 285 (94.1%)	8 161 (5.9%)	138 446
Private housing	15 196 (48.2%)	16 326 (51.8%)	31 522
Total	145 481 (85.6%)	24 487 (14.4%)	169 968

(2) Household statistics as at end-March 2015

(i) *Taking account of the increase of MRA by 6.7% since 1 February 2015 according to the established adjustment mechanism*

As at end-March 2015	Actual rent <u>less than or equal to</u> MRA	Actual rent <u>exceeding</u> MRA	Total
Public housing	132 397 (96.4%)	4 984 (3.6%)	137 381
Private housing	17 005 (54.6%)	14 133 (45.4%)	31 138
Total	149 402 (88.7%)	19 117 (11.3%)	168 519

(ii) *Taking account of the increase of MRA by 6.7% since 1 February 2015 and the average monthly amount (i.e. about \$167 for one-person households; and about \$333 for two-or-more-person households) from the one-off subsidy under CCF² (\$2,000 for one-person households; and \$4,000 for two-or-more-person households)*

As at end-March 2015	Actual rent <u>less than or equal to</u> MRA plus the average monthly amount of subsidy from CCF	Actual rent <u>exceeding</u> MRA plus the average monthly amount of subsidy from CCF	Total
Public housing	Same as table (i) above	Same as table (i) above	137 381
Private housing	20 565 (66.0%)	10 573 (34.0%)	31 138
Total	152 962 (90.8%)	15 557 (9.2%)	168 519

¹ The statistics in this Annex is on a household basis. The Social Welfare Department does not keep recipient-based rental statistics.

² The objective of this initiative is to provide a one-off subsidy to CSSA households living in rented private housing and paying a rent which exceeded MRA under the CSSA Scheme, so as to relieve their financial burden as a result of the periodic increase of rent.