

政府總部
勞工及福利局

香港添馬添美道2號
政府總部

本函檔號 Our Ref. : LWB T3/ 18/41
來函檔號 Your Ref. :



LABOUR AND WELFARE BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar
Hong Kong

電話號碼 Tel No. : (852) 2810 3296
傳真號碼 Fax No. : (852) 2804 6509

By Fax

(Fax No.: 2509 0775, Total: 2 pages)

22 July 2015

Mr Colin CHUI
Chief Council Secretary
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

LC Paper No. CB(2)1955/14-15(01)

Dear Mr CHUI,

**Supplementary Information on
“Inspection and Licensing System
for Monitoring Residential Care Homes for the Elderly”**

The Panel on Welfare Services discussed the above subject at its meeting on 8 June 2015. You passed to this Bureau on 19 June 2015 a letter from Hon TANG Ka-piu of 11 June 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1762/14-15(01)) which sought supplementary information from the Government. Our response is set out below.

The Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (LORCHE) of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) in the recent years conducts on average seven surprise inspections at each private residential care home for the elderly (RCHE) per year. Based on risk management principles, the risk level of an RCHE is classified as high, medium or normal, having regard to the number and nature of non-compliant items identified during inspections. The frequency of inspections will accordingly be adjusted, so that more inspections will be made to RCHEs with higher risk to ensure that the non-compliant items are rectified in a timely manner. Non-compliant items leading to a classification of high risk mainly include staff employment failing to meet statutory standards, nursing procedures breaching the requirements under the Code of Practice for Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons), etc. RCHEs are required to comply with LORCHE's warning, advice or direction and take prompt action in rectifying irregularities. The risk levels of the RCHEs concerned will be re-classified after the rectification of the irregularities concerned.

/ ...

The risk levels of RCHEs are re-classified from time to time based on the information obtained by LORCHE during inspections, including whether non-compliant items have been rectified in a timely manner. The risk levels of RCHEs are therefore constantly amended and updated. The risk level assessed and adjusted determines the frequency of inspections to be made to an RCHE and has a direct bearing on the monitoring action taken by LORCHE. SWD does not consider it appropriate to provide any list of RCHEs classified as high-risk.

The Government will review the mechanisms under the existing legal framework to further strengthen the monitoring of RCHEs, including examining whether more information on the service quality of individual RCHEs should be provided. In the process, the Government will adopt an open mind in our discussion with the industry and seek legal advice as and when necessary to identify feasible ways for enhancing monitoring, with a view to raising the service standards of RCHEs.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Florence LO)
for Secretary for Labour and Welfare

c.c. Director of Social Welfare (Attention: Ms PANG Kit-ling)