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8 April 2016

Ms Joanne MAK  
Clerk to Panel on Home Affairs  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms MAK,

**Panel on Home Affairs  
Follow up to Meeting on 13 November 2015**

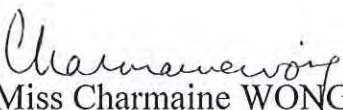
The Panel on Home Affairs discussed the measures to enhance the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership Programme (referred to as “ESRP”) on 13 November 2015. At the meeting, the Government was requested to provide information on the total assets value of the social enterprises (referred to as “SEs”) funded by ESRP and the studies (if any) to compare the performance between the SEs funded by the Government and those wholly funded by private companies. Our response is set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

The grant of the ESRP may be used to pay for assets (such as equipment) as well as other initial capital and operating expenses (such as fitting-out works, salaries, rental expenses) for the daily operation of the funded SE. According to the latest

annual progress reports submitted by 116 operating SEs funded by ESRP, their total assets value was about \$115 million.

The Government has all along been promoting cross-sectoral collaboration to support the development of SEs. In particular, we welcome the business sector to support SEs through the provision of funding to and procurement of services/products from SEs. A strict comparison between the SEs funded by the Government and those by private companies may not be appropriate as the performance of SEs depend on factors other than initial funding support. We therefore have not conducted any study for this particular comparison. Apart from providing funding support for the setting up of SEs through ESRP, we would continue to support SE platform organisations to provide services to SEs and to help them increase their capacity and competitiveness to ensure their long term sustainability.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Miss Charmaine WONG)  
for Director of Home Affairs

c.c. Secretary for Home Affairs (Attn.: Ms Gloria LO)