

政府總部
勞工及福利局
香港添馬添美道
政府總部



LABOUR AND WELFARE BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

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22 July 2016

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 14 December 2015**

At the meeting of the Panel on Welfare Services on 14 December 2015, Members requested the following information –

- (a) the increase in the number of court cases on issues about children of divorced parents;
- (b) the increase in the number of cases involving parents who had abused the right to participate in their children's lives and deliberately obstructed or delayed the making of major decisions relating to their children; and
- (c) the effectiveness of different types of support services provided by the Administration in reducing the aforesaid court cases and abuse cases.

The Government has not collated the statistics referred to in (a) and (b) above.

As regards (c) above, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has been implementing various measures to facilitate co-operation among the separated/divorced couples in taking care of their children. Separated/divorced couples may receive a continuum of preventive, supportive and remedial services

at the 65 Integrated Family Service Centres and the two Integrated Services Centres over the territory. The services include counselling, arrangements for clinical psychological counselling, as well as targeted groups and activities for separated/divorced couples, etc. Social workers of these Centres will assess their needs and provide them with appropriate services. Through counselling service, social workers encourage separated/divorced couples to make their best attempts to cooperate in caring for their children, with a view to providing a secure, stable and caring environment conducive to the growth of the children.

Meanwhile, SWD has been launching a territory-wide campaign entitled “Marriage may end but parenthood goes on” since February 2013, with a series of publicity and educational measures such as a set of handbooks as well as television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, to promote the concept of continuing parental responsibility. Parents can make use of the educational materials to learn how to manage their emotion, enhance their communication and cooperation with ex-partners, resolve conflicts and practise co-parenting for the best interests of the children.

We believe that the above support services could help reduce the number of aforesaid court cases and abuse cases.

Yours sincerely,

(Eugene WAN)
for Secretary for Labour & Welfare

c.c. Secretary for Justice (Attn: Ms Mary HO)
Director of Social Welfare (Attn: Ms Annisa MA)