

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

Central Government Offices
Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar, Hong Kong

本函檔號 Our Ref.: LWB T4/18/29

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

29 May 2017

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

Dear Mr CHUI,

**Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services
Follow-up to meeting on 13 March 2017**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Welfare Services on 13 March 2017, Members requested the Government to provide the following supplementary information –

- (a) a breakdown of the number of complaints against doctors and social workers arising from applications for the Disability Allowance (DA) received by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and the Hospital Authority (HA) respectively in the past five years; and
- (b) the rejection rate of applications for the DA.

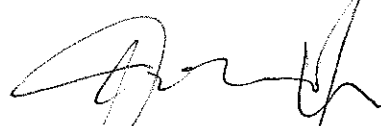
I am authorised to reply as follows.

The DA is a non-contributory and non-means-tested cash allowance. Its objective is to assist severely disabled Hong Kong residents in meeting special needs arising from their disabling conditions. An applicant for the DA has to be assessed as severely disabled and as a result needs substantial help from others to cope with daily life.

During medical assessment, doctor takes into account DA applicant's clinical conditions at the time of the medical assessment, and in accordance with the Medical Assessment Form of the DA, carries out professional assessment on whether the applicant is severely disabled and as a result needs substantial help from others to cope with daily life, thereby being eligible for the DA. SWD will consider applications for the DA in accordance with the result of the medical assessment and other eligibility criteria (such as residence requirement).

SWD and HA do not keep information on the number of complaints against social workers and doctors arising from applications for the DA, nor does SWD keep the number and percentage of the rejected DA applications. Meanwhile, the Social Security Appeal Board received a total of 2 046 DA-related complaints and appeals in the past five years.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss LI Wan-in)

for Secretary for Labour and Welfare

c.c.

Director of Social Welfare
Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority

(Attn: Miss Rita LAU)
(Attn: Dr Cissy CHOI)