Legislative Council Finance Committee meeting on 11 January 2019

75MC –Community health centre-cum-residential care home for the elderly at Tuen Mun Area 29 West

Supplementary Information

PURPOSE

When the captioned project was discussed at the Legislative Council Finance Committee meeting on 11 January 2019 (FCR(2018-19)71 refers), Members requested the Government to provide the following supplementary information –

- (1) the consultation quotas and the attendances for the three general out-patient clinics (GOPCs) operated by the Hospital Authority (HA) in Tuen Mun District;
- (2) the Government's estimate of the overall population and elderly population growth trend in Tuen Mun District and how the relevant estimate can be made; and
- (3) information on how and whether the GOPC services to be provided by the community health centre (CHC) at Tuen Mun Area 29 West can alleviate the demand for such services by residents in Tuen Mun District in the future, taking into account of (1) and (2) above.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSES

- 2. The required information is set out below
 - The service of the GOPCs of the HA is primarily used by the elders, low-income individuals, and patients with chronic diseases. Currently, there are three GOPCs under the HA in Tuen Mun

District, namely, Tuen Mun Clinic, Yan Oi General Out-patient Clinic and Tuen Mun Wu Hong Clinic. In order to let members of public know the consultation quotas of individual clinics, the HA has uploaded the average number of quotas for the preceding of individual clinics its website four weeks on (http://www.ha.org.hk/pas_gopc/pas_gopc_avg_quota.htm) for reference by the public. Consultation quotas of the clinics have been fully utilised all along.

- (2)The service volume of GOPCs is enormous. Every year, the GOPCs serve over a million patients with nearly 6 million attendances. The HA understands that the enormous demand for general out-patient services. According to statistics of the Census and Statistics Department, in mid-2015, the population of Tuen Mun District was over 504 300, 12.6% of which were elderly aged 65 or above. The Planning Department projects that, the population of Tuen Mun District will increase to 556 100 by 2024, with over 20% being the elderly. Having regard to the population growth and ageing population, the demographic profile and the distribution of the existing GOPCs in Tuen Mun district, in order to cope with the increasing demand for healthcare services in the district, the HA plans to develop a sizeable community health centre (CHC) in the public housing development project at Tuen Mun Area 29 West, in order to strengthen the service and provide comprehensive primary care services to the citizens. The CHC will provide medical consultation, multi-disciplinary healthcare services and patient empowerment services, etc. This will enable the provision of appropriate primary health care services to the major service users in the nearby community, such as residents of public housing in the northern part of Tuen Mun.
- (3) Upon full functioning of the CHC at Tuen Mun Area 29 West, it is estimated that there would be around 15 000 person-time per day visiting that CHC. The services received by patients also include wound dressing, injection, and various kind of assessments and examinations. Same as other districts, CHCs and GOPCs in the same district will complement each other in terms of service capacity and scope of service. The consultation quotas of

GOPCs and CHCs in close proximity in the same district are pooled together to facilitate the provision of primary care services in that district.

Transport and Housing Bureau Food and Health Bureau February 2019