

**Legislative Council
Panel on Welfare Services
Meeting on 14 January 2019**

**Evaluation Study on the Pilot Scheme on On-site Pre-school
Rehabilitation Services**

Supplementary Information

At the meeting of the Panel on Welfare Services on 14 January 2019, the item on Evaluative Study on the Pilot Scheme on On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services (OPRS) was discussed. Members requested the Government to provide the following information after the meeting:

- (a) the number of additional speech therapist(s), occupational therapist(s), physiotherapist(s), social worker(s), programme assistant(s) and driver(s) to be provided for each inter-disciplinary service team;
- (b) the number of staff in each of the grades mentioned in (a) above in an inter-disciplinary service team before and after the staffing enhancement for inter-disciplinary service teams; and
- (c) the number of children with special needs aged between two and six.

This note sets out our response.

2. The existing notional staffing establishment of an OPRS team serving 100 children with special needs is as follows:

Rank/Post	Number of Staff
Social Work Officer	0.25
Assistant Social Work Officer	1
Social Work Assistant	1
Clinical/Educational Psychologist	0.25
Senior Special Child Care Worker	1
Special Child Care Worker	5.5
Speech Therapist	1

Physiotherapist I	0.5
Occupational Therapist I	1
Occupational Therapy Assistant	1
Clerical Assistant	1

3. In 2019-20, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) will enhance the abovementioned notional staffing establishment by increasing the number of Speech Therapist from 1 to 2, and Assistant Social Work Officer from 1 to 1.5; and creating the posts of 1 Welfare Worker and 1 driver.

4. The number of children with special needs having been assessed and referred through the central referral system of the SWD to be waitlisted for pre-school rehabilitation services, including Early Education and Training Centres, Special Child Care Centres, Integrated Programme in Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centres and OPRS that was regularised in October 2018, in each of the past 3 years is as follows:

Year	Number of New Applicants
2016-17	5 864
2017-18	6 344
2018-19	6 985

Labour and Welfare Bureau
Social Welfare Department
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