



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部勞工及福利局  
Labour and Welfare Bureau  
Government Secretariat, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

本局檔號Our Ref.: LWB R 24/3939/92 Pt. 40  
來函檔號Your Ref.: SKC/LC/2019/0507

電話號碼Tel No.: (852) 3655 4429  
傳真號碼Fax No.: (852) 2543 0486

8 July 2019

Ms Wendy JAN  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms JAN,

I refer to the email from the Legislative Council Secretariat to the Labour and Welfare Bureau dated 17 May 2019. Our response to the questions raised in Member's letter is as follows:

As regards vocational rehabilitation and employment support for persons with disabilities, according to the information provided by Hong Kong Society for the Blind (HKSB), HKSB aimed to re-provision the existing 210 training places/ posts of the sheltered workshop/ factory section of the Factory for the Blind (the Factory) and to set up a new Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre with 100 places upon completion of the redevelopment project. In addition, HKSB advised that the operation of most of the trades of the sheltered workshop and the factory section would be maintained and the present employer-employee relationship with workers of the factory section would be retained during the redevelopment period and after completion of the redevelopment project.

As regards the decanting arrangement, having considered the stakeholders' concerns in March this year, the Government has rendered assistance to HKSB in the search for a suitable decanting site in urban area. Subsequently, the Government has identified a to-be-vacated school premises in Kwun Tong District and HKSB has given preliminary indication that the school site concerned should be suitable as a decanting site for the Factory. Detailed

arrangement and study on the feasibility of the decanting option are underway and yet to be confirmed. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has informed HKSB that they may apply for the Lotteries Fund to cover the works, furniture and equipment for the decanting site and relocation costs, etc.

As regards consultation with stakeholders by HKSB, we understand that HKSB has started briefing service users and their family members on the redevelopment project and relevant arrangements through various channels since October 2018. Apart from meeting with service users and their family members, HKSB collected their views and addressed their concerns about redevelopment arrangement through individual interviews, telephone and mail. HKSB advised that, with a view to strengthening communication with service users and their family members, they arranged a meeting on 17 April 2019 to brief services users, their family members and other stakeholders further on the progress and arrangement of the redevelopment project. Representatives of SWD also attended the meeting and provided their advice. HKSB will set up a communication platform involving different stakeholders to facilitate mutual communication on the arrangement of the redevelopment project.

The Panel on Welfare Services has discussed redevelopment of the Factory in To Kwa Wan at its meeting on 20 May 2019. Government representatives have already attended the meeting and responded to Member's questions.



( Ms Victoria TSE )  
for Secretary for Labour and Welfare

c.c. Director of Social Welfare (Attn: Mr KOK Che-leung)