<u>Professional Services Development Assistance Scheme (PSDAS):</u> reasons for rejection of some applications

At the meeting of the LegCo Panel on Commerce and Industry held on 17 May 2005, Members requested for more information about why some applications for funding under the PSDAS were rejected.

Up to the last round of applications, a total of 240 applications for PSDAS funding have been received. 124 applications were not approved because of the following reasons –

- (a) no added value will be brought about by PSDAS funding, e.g. the proposed activities are already available in the market; there is doubt on the usefulness of the proposed activities in pursuing the objectives of the PSDAS; the applicant will be implementing the activities regardless of whether there is PSDAS funding or through its ordinary course of business in any event [61 (49.2%)];
- (b) the beneficiaries or the project scope fall(s) outside the ambit of the Scheme [50 (40.3%)];
- (c) the applicant has withdrawn the application after submission due to a change of mind or having obtained other sources of sponsorship [8 (6.5%)];
- (d) the applicant cannot provide the necessary information/clarifications required to enable the application to be further processed [3 (2.4%)]; and
- (e) the applicant is not a non-profit-distributing organization (which is a requirement under the PSDAS) [2 (1.6%)].