

政府總部
勞工及福利局
香港下亞厘畢道
中區政府合署



LABOUR AND WELFARE BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

Central Government Offices
Lower Albert Road
Hong Kong

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來函檔號 **Your Ref.:** CB1/F/1/10

12 March 2009

Clerk to the Finance Committee
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Anita SIT)

Dear Ms SIT,

Finance Committee
Follow-up to meeting on 5 December 2008

Thank you for your letter of 8 December 2008 on the above issue. I set out below more information on the short-term food assistance service.

Criteria and procedures for selection of the operating NGOs and the outcome of the selection exercise

Upon approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council on the allocation of \$100 million, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) invited non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on 8 December 2008 to submit proposals for operating the short-term food assistance service projects. Applicants should be charitable bodies as stipulated under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap 112) and are providing welfare services. A briefing session was organised for interested NGOs on 15 December 2008 and was attended by around 100 participants. Upon the closing of submission of proposals on 5 January 2009, a total of 25 proposals from 16 agencies were received.

Five vetting committees were set up by SWD to assess the proposals for the five projects. The assessment was based on the quality of the proposals, including the knowledge and relevant experience of the agency; the premises to be used for operating the service; the proposed budget; understanding of the service needs and estimated service demand in the locality to be served; overall service design; the strategy to promote and develop partnership with local communities and the business sector; management design; value-added proposals and other merits of the proposals. The outcome of the selection exercise is as follows –

Areas	Operating NGO
Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing, Hong Kong Island and other Islands (including Tung Chung)	St James's Settlement
Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong	Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin and Sai Kung	Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service
Shatin, Tai Po and North	Hong Kong Women Development Association Ltd
Tuen Mun and Yuen Long	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council

Application and assessment procedures for individual applicants for short-term food assistance

Individuals and families in need may directly approach the operating NGOs or be referred by any Government department, NGO, local organisation, Members of the Legislative Council or District Councils, school etc. for short-term food assistance.

The operating NGOs have drawn up detailed mechanisms and guidelines for assessing the eligibilities and needs of target service users as well as the support level to be provided. SWD has advised individual operating NGOs on the mechanism and guidelines for the purpose of achieving consistent application and assessment procedures among the five service projects. Individuals and families in need are required to provide only basic documents (HKID card, proof of residential address, income proof etc) for assessment so that those assessed to be eligible for assistance will be able to collect the food as soon as possible.

Assessment of and food arrangement for the eligible service users will be completed within five working days upon receipt of referrals from the referring agencies or applications from service users. For urgent cases, the operating NGOs will provide individuals / families in need with one to two days' food assistance while pending further assessment.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Helen TANG)
for Secretary for Labour and Welfare

cc SFST (Attn: Ms Elsie YUEN) 2530 5921