



立法會
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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By fax (2868 5916)
15 May 2009

Mr Michael SUEN Ming-yeung, GBS, JP
Secretary for Education
Education Bureau
8/F, West Wing
Central Government Offices
Hong Kong

Dear Mr SUEN,

Panel on Welfare Services

Provision of subvented residential care places for persons with disabilities

At its meeting on 11 May 2009, the Panel on Welfare Services has examined the proposals of setting up two new Integrated Rehabilitation Services Centres for persons with disabilities (PWDs). In studying the proposals, members have expressed grave concern about the long waiting time for residential care services for PWDs. Members note that the average waiting time for Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons in 2008 was as long as 106.8 months. The Panel considers that the provision of subvented residential care services for PWDs should be sped up to shorten the average waiting time to a reasonable time frame.

The Panel notes that the Social Welfare Department will continue to identify suitable premises, including vacant Government buildings and schools for conversion into the provision of residential care services, to increase the provision of day training and residential care services to PWDs to meet service demand. The Panel strongly requests the Administration to actively identify suitable premises for such places.

The Panel has instructed me to convey the request to you. Members hope your bureau would give due attention to the matter and accord priority in identifying suitable premises for conversion into the provision of day training and residential care services to PWDs.

(Albert CHAN)
Chairman to Panel

c.c. Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Director of Social Welfare
Commissioner for Rehabilitation