

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Social welfare land use planning”
moved by Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 16 February 2011**

Wording of the Motion

That, given that at present, the Government does not include social welfare use as one of the considerations of land use planning, resulting in many welfare service units' quality of service being affected due to inadequate area or inability to meet the requirements of net operational floor areas specified in the relevant Schedules of Accommodation; some units are even unable to commence operation due to failure to identify permanent venues; recently, there have been delays in residential care homes for the elderly, residential care homes for persons with disabilities, District Support Centres for Persons with Disabilities and Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness, etc. finding places to commence operation because of the authorities' unsatisfactory land use planning, which ultimately causes service users to suffer; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to face up to the inadequacy of social welfare land use, have land zoned for welfare use well in advance, expedite the provision of lands for welfare use as needed, and jointly draw up with the sector a mechanism for long-term social welfare land use planning, including collating social indicators, assessing social welfare needs and appropriately dovetailing with the implementation of welfare policies when formulating land policies, so as to ensure that the development of social welfare services will not be impeded; moreover, this Council also urges the Government to enhance civic education, with a view to fostering greater public acceptance of the integration of the socially disadvantaged into the community.