

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
PANEL ON WELFARE SERVICES  
PANEL ON HEALTH SERVICES**

**Follow up to the joint meeting on 24 May 2011**

**Identification of Premises for  
Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness**

In response to the request raised by Members at the joint meeting of the Panel on Welfare Services and Panel on Health Services on 24 May 2011, this paper provides supplementary information on the identification of premises for Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness (ICCMWs).

2. There are currently 24 ICCMW service points operated by non-governmental organisations across the territory. The progress of the identification of permanent accommodation for ICCMWs as at August 2011 is set out below -

<b>Status</b>	<b>Number of ICCMWs</b>	<b>Latest Progress (Note)</b>
Permanent accommodation secured (and local consultation completed)	6	In operation
	1	Construction of the new development site scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011
	1	Fitting out works of the premises scheduled to be completed by the first quarter of 2012-13
	1	Pending Lands Department (LandsD)'s approval for change in land use
Premises reserved	6	Local consultation in progress
Premises to be identified	9	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	-

Note: In general, after identifying a suitable site for ICCMW, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) needs to conduct local consultation, apply for change in land use (where necessary), apply funding under the Lotteries Fund for the cost of fitting and furnishing, and carry out fitting-out works etc. before its commencement of operation at the permanent accommodation.

3. The Administration will continue to make active efforts in identifying suitable premises for the remaining ICCMW premises. On long term planning, we will continue to maintain close liaison with relevant government departments (e.g. LandsD, the Planning Department and Housing Department) with a view to reserving suitable sites at the planning stage of new development or re-development projects as far as practicable for setting up rehabilitation service facilities. On medium term planning, we will keep a close watch on the availability of vacant premises and school sites arising from re-engineering of services. On short term planning, we will actively identify vacant public housing units for conversion into rehabilitation service facilities.

4. Some ICCMW operators may consider leasing premises in the private rental market as an interim measure to meet the service needs. In this regard, SWD will favourably consider supporting the rental expenses incurred (capped at the standard provision for a full-scale set of welfare premises in the public sector) on the condition that the premises are suitable for operating ICCMW and that the rent is reasonable. As at August 2011, SWD has approved three applications submitted by ICCMW operators for this purpose, and two of which have already entered into tenancy agreement with the landlords.

Social Welfare Department  
September 2011