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4 January 2012

Clerk to Panel on Welfare Services
(Attn: Ms Candice Lam)
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Lam,

Short-term Food Assistance Service

At the meeting on 14 November 2011, Members discussed the "Additional Funding for Short-term Food Assistance Service" [see LC Paper No. CB(2)248/11-12(03)] and requested the Administration to provide information on the service statistics and the background of service users. The information is set out below.

- (a) *Number of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients who received short-term food assistance service (the service)*

By the end of October 2011, a total of 9 465 CSSA recipients had received the service. However, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) does not have statistics on how many of them had received the service more than once.

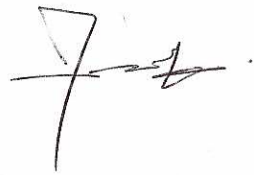
- (b) *Number of non-CSSA recipients who were referred to the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) for long-term welfare assistance*

SWD does not have statistics on the number of service users (regardless of whether they are on CSSA or not) who were referred to IFSCs for long-term welfare assistance. Service users may also be referred to other service units as appropriate.

(c) *Districts which had relatively more service users*

By the end of October 2011, Sham Shui Po and Tuen Mun were the districts with more service users. They accounted for about 14.7% and 9.5% respectively of the total number of people served.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Franco Kwok', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

(Franco KWOK)
for Secretary for Labour and Welfare

c.c. Director of Social Welfare (Attn: Mrs Anna MAK)