

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
PANEL ON MANPOWER &  
PANEL ON WELFARE SERVICES**

**Manpower situation of residential care homes for the elderly**

**The Administration's response to issues of concern  
raised by Members at the meeting  
on 19 February 2013**

**Purpose**

This paper provides the Administration's response to issues of concern raised by Members at the joint meeting of the Panel on Manpower and Panel on Welfare Services on 19 February 2013 regarding the manpower situation of residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs).

**Issues of concern**

2. At the said meeting on 19 February 2013, Members asked for the following information:

- (a) *information on the manpower requirement projection for different types of staff in RCHEs, such as Health Workers, Enrolled Nurses and Care Workers; and*
- (b) *a breakdown of the number of elderly applicants on the Central Waiting List (CWL) for Subsidised Long Term Care Services (LTC services) of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) by their location preferences for RCHEs.*

**The Administration's Response**

**Manpower requirement projection for different types of staff in RCHEs**

3. To ascertain the manpower demand in the social welfare sector, SWD conducts regular projections on the manpower demand for various types of paramedical and care staff of the sector (especially for

the elderly care and rehabilitation services). SWD takes into consideration a series of factors in order to assess the overall manpower demand of the sector. In the process, SWD will make effort to understand the manpower demand of the social welfare service providers, make reference to other related surveys and views in the projection process, and takes into account the additional manpower demand arising from the new initiatives/projects that SWD has planned to implement in future. SWD will have regard to the manpower demand in planning for the additional training places for the welfare sector.

#### Number of elderly applicants on the Central Waiting List for Subsidised LTC Services

4. Under CWL, LTC services will be allocated to the applicants in accordance with the order of their application dates and their indicated preferences. SWD does not capture statistics on the number of elderly applicants with breakdown by their preferred districts/locations. Elderly applicants may indicate at most three preferences on the locations (in terms of region, district or specific home), apart from religious background and diet provision of RCHEs. All location preferences so indicated carry the same weight. Placement will be offered when a vacant place of a particular RCHE at any of the preferred locations indicated is available. Therefore, the number of applicants broken down by location preferences will not tally with the actual number of applicants on CWL.

#### **Advice Sought**

5. Members are invited to note the content of this paper.

Labour and Welfare Bureau  
Social Welfare Department  
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