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Panel on Manpower

**Background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
for the meeting on 16 December 2014**

Tung Chung Job Centre

Purpose

This paper provides background information on the setting up of a new job centre in Tung Chung by the Labour Department ("LD"), and summarises the views expressed by members on the subject.

Background

2. At present, LD operates a network of 13 job centres (including the new job centre in Tung Chung and the Employment in One-stop in Tin Shui Wai) throughout the territory to provide job seekers with a comprehensive range of free employment services.

3. In the 2013 Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced that the Administration would set up a new job centre in Tung Chung to strengthen employment services provided for residents in remote areas. According to the Administration, with the establishment of this new job centre, residents on the Lantau Island, including areas of Tung Chung, Mui Wo, Tai O and Discovery Bay, can seek employment support within the region, thus reducing greatly their time and travelling expenses incurred by obtaining employment services across districts.

Members' views and concerns

4. The Panel on Manpower has not discussed the subject of setting up of a new job centre in Tung Chung per se. However, members have all along been concerned about the LD's employment services provided for residents in remote

districts, such as Tung Chung, where there are a relatively large number of needy job seekers and recipients of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA").

5. When receiving a briefing from the Secretary for Labour and Welfare on the 2014 Policy Address in respect of the key initiatives on manpower and labour at the meeting of the Panel on Manpower ("the Panel") on 27 January 2014, members were advised that the new job centre in Tung Chung would commence operation shortly. The job centre would provide job seekers with employment support services including job referrals, latest employment information, as well as organising employment briefings and job fairs, etc. To facilitate job search, facilities such as vacancy search terminals, fax machines, telephones, computers with resume-building software and employment resources corner would be provided in the new job centre for public use. Job seekers with employment difficulties could also enrol in specialised employment programmes conducted by LD to enhance their employability. LD would contact employers in the district and strengthen collaboration with them. Job fairs would be staged in the Tung Chung Job Centre and job seekers could make job applications or attend job interviews on the spot so as to increase their chances of getting employed. It was estimated that the Job Centre would commence operation in the first half of 2014.

6. In the course of the examination of the Estimates of Expenditure 2014-2015, some members also raised concern about the employment support services for job seekers in Tung Chung. There was a view that the Administration should work in collaboration with enterprises in the district to enhance the dissemination of employment information and provide financial incentive for able-bodied CSSA recipients to encourage them to seek employment. According to the Administration, LD had collaborated with different enterprises, such as the Airport Authority Hong Kong, to co-organise large-scale job fairs in Tung Chung to facilitate easy access to employment information and application by job seekers on the spot. With the setting up of the new job centre in Tung Chung, LD could be able to better serve the job seekers in the district.

Latest developments

7. The Tung Chung Job Centre, located at Yat Tung Shopping Centre of Yat Tung Estate in Tung Chung, came into operation on 20 October 2014. It is the 13th job centre in the territory to provide free employment services for the public. The Administration will brief members on the operation of the new Tung Chung Job Centre at the Panel meeting on 16 December 2014.

Relevant papers

8. A list of the relevant papers on the Legislative Council website is in the **Appendix**.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
9 December 2014

Appendix

Relevant papers on Tung Chung Job Centre

Committee	Date of meeting	Paper
Panel on Manpower	25.1.2013 (Item V)	Agenda Minutes
	18.6.2013 (Item V)	Agenda Minutes
	27.1.2014 (Item IV)	Agenda Minutes
	20.5.2014 (Item III)	Agenda Minutes
Finance Committee	11.6.2010 (Item No. 5 FCR (2010-11)25)	Agenda Minutes
	3.4.2014 (Special meeting)	Agenda Minutes

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