

政府總部
民政事務局

香港添馬添美道二號
政府總部西翼十二樓



**GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
HOME AFFAIRS BUREAU**

12TH FLOOR, WEST WING,
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
2 TIM MEI AVENUE,
TAMAR,
HONG KONG.

本局檔號 OUR REF : SF(9) to HAB/C 5/7/1
電話號碼 TEL NO. : 3509 8126
圖文傳真 FAX NO. : 2802 4893

4 May 2017

Clerk to Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council Secretariat
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Joanne MAK)

Dear Ms MAK,

Follow-up to Meeting of Panel on Home Affairs on 27 March 2017

**Reprovisioning of Shanghai Street refuse collection point and
street sleepers' services units to the site on Hau Cheung Street, Yau Ma
Tei for the phase II development of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre project**

At the meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs on 27 March 2017 when Members discussed the captioned reprovisioning project, Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan sought information about street sleepers, including the numbers of street sleepers, accommodation places for street sleepers, and street sleepers on the waiting list for accommodation places. We have consulted the Social Welfare Department (SWD) on the abovementioned matters and the relevant information is provided as follows –

Number of street sleepers

As at the end of February 2017, the number of street sleepers registered in the "Street Sleepers Registry" of the SWD was 915.

Number of accommodation places for street sleepers

To address the emergency and short-term accommodation needs of street sleepers, the SWD subvents six non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate urban hostels for single persons and urban emergency shelters; four NGOs also operate hostels on self-financing basis (including the operator of the street sleepers' shelter on Shanghai Street viz. the Street Sleepers' Shelter Society Trustees Incorporated) to provide temporary accommodation for street sleepers.

Through reallocation of resources in financial year 2016/17, the SWD has subvented 20 additional accommodation places, resulting in an increase of subvented accommodation places to 222 in Hong Kong. Together with the self-financed accommodation places, there are a total of 630 accommodation places available for street sleepers.

Number of street sleepers on the waiting list for accommodation places

In financial year 2016/17 (as at December 2016), the average utilisation rate of subvented urban hostels for single persons and urban emergency shelters was 82%. At present, the service provision is sufficient for meeting the demand and the SWD does not have the statistics of persons waiting for the accommodation places concerned. As for the street sleepers' shelter on Shanghai Street, the utilisation rate was 66% as at December 2016.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Sandy CHEUNG)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

c.c. Director of Social Welfare (Attn: Miss FUNG Hing-sum, Fanny)