



LABOUR DEPARTMENT (Headquarters)

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6 June 2018

Miss Betty MA
Clerk to Panel on Manpower
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss MA,

Panel on Manpower
List of follow-up actions

I refer to Item 3 of the list of follow-up actions of the Panel on Manpower regarding information of the Housing Department (HD) and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). Please find below the reply provided by HD and FEHD.

Item 3(a)

Guards employed by HD's security service contractors are normally required to work on a continuous eight-hour shift. Their meal time is counted as hours worked and its pay has been included in the monthly wages. Cleaners employed by HD's cleansing service contractors may have different work hour pattern and meal time/pay arrangement. It is up to the contractors and their workers to agree on such employment terms.

FEHD has no outsourced service contract incorporating paid meal breaks in the employment terms for non-skilled workers engaged by government service contractors.

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Item 3(b)

As stated in paragraphs 2.17 and 2.25 of Chapter 10 in the Director of Audit's Report No. 49: Outsourcing of the management of public rental housing estates, amongst the 115 irregular cases, 17 cases were referred to law enforcement agencies, 52 cases related to non-Demerit Point System contracts (i.e. contracts awarded on the basis of tenders invited before the Demerit Point System was implemented), 2 cases were issued with Default Notices not attracting Demerit Point, and the remaining cases did not warrant the issue of Default Notices under the Demerit Point System.

Item 3(c)

The Hong Kong Housing Authority does not have any posts of non-skilled employees such as security guards and cleaners for direct employment in public rental housing estates. Therefore, HD is unable to compare it with the situation under the outsourcing of property management and estimate the total amount of related savings in staff costs.

Yours sincerely,



(Simon LI)

for Commissioner for Labour

- c.c. Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Attn: Ms Crystal HUI)
Director of Housing (Attn: Mrs CHEUNG LO Pik-yuk, Helen)
Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Attn: Mr CHIU Yu-chow)