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Your reference: CB4/PL/PS

By Email

2 December 2020

Ms Maggie CHUNG
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms CHUNG :

Panel on Public Service

**Workmen II grade of
The dead removal team of
The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**

I refer to your letter dated 18 November 2020 on the captioned subject. I provide herewith our inputs in **Annex I** (in Chinese) and **Annex II** (in English) for your information.

For enquiries, please contact me at 2867 5642

With best Regards,

Yours sincerely



(LAI Siu-kwong)

for Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Legislative Council Panel on Public Service

Workmen II of the Dead Removal Teams
under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Structure of Dead Removal Teams (DRTs)

There are a total of 10 DRTs under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). The DRTs comprise Gangers and Workmen II, who are Model Scale 1 staff. They are on duty 24 hours a day on a shift basis at the duty rooms of the three Operations Divisions. Each DRT is headed by one Ganger, who supervises four Workmen II. Including relief staff, there are altogether 14 Gangers and 57 Workmen II in the 10 DRTs.

Job Nature of DRTs and Duties of Workmen II

The DRTs are responsible for the removal of dead bodies from hospitals, medical institutions, private and public places, and scenes of crime or accidents to hospitals or public mortuaries.

Salaries and Conditions of Service of Workmen II

Workmen II belong to a common grade. The minimum pay point of Workmen II is Model Scale 1 Pay Scale Point 0 (\$13,730 per month) and the maximum pay point is Model Scale 1 Pay Scale Point 8 (\$16,175 per month). The conditioned hours of work are 45 hours net per week and the working hours are determined by the relevant departments according to operational needs. According to the terms of appointment and relevant rules and regulations, such as the Civil Service Regulations, Workmen II can enjoy fringe benefits, including leave, medical and dental benefits, injury and death benefits, and retirement benefits.

As the DRTs are required to work under obnoxious and harsh conditions, a team member meeting the monthly hour requirement (i.e. the relevant work takes up not less than 50% of his/her working hours in a calendar month) will receive a monthly hardship allowance of \$2,080.

Recruitment and retention of Workmen II in DRTs

In the past few years, the FEHD did not encounter difficulties in recruiting Workmen II into the DRTs nor problems in staff retention. The FEHD reviews the manpower of the DRTs from time to time. Currently, there are no vacancies in the DRTs.

Review of the structure of DRTs

When reviewing the ranking arrangement, the FEHD has to follow the prevailing mechanism to review the objectives of establishment, position and structure of the DRTs, and see whether there has been a fundamental change in their job nature, complexity of work as well as duties and responsibilities.

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

December 2020

ENDS