

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : Lotteries Fund

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question : Out of the estimated expenditure of \$1,808,528,000 from Lotteries Fund for 2009-10, has the Administration estimated how much will be used for meeting the expenditure on minor repair works for residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs)?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) may apply for Block Grant allocation under the Lotteries Fund for, among others, minor repair works in subvented service units including RCHEs. As NGOs have the flexibility to use the Block Grant allocation to carry out minor repair works in various kinds of service units, we have no information on the estimated expenditure on repair works for subvented RCHEs in 2009-10.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Stephen Fisher

Director of Social Welfare

20 March 2009

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Head : Lotteries Fund

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Question : The 2009-10 Budget has made a provision of \$1,136,874,000 under "Additional Commitments" of the Lotteries Fund. As the expenditure under this Head was \$0 in 2008-09, would the Administration please explain the reasons for this provision?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply : Provision under Head 361 – Additional Commitments is to meet expenditure which may be required during the year in excess of amounts provided under Head 341-Non Recurrent Grants, but which cannot be specifically allocated or determined with precision during the preparation of the Estimates. When, from time to time during the year, additional provision is approved under Head 341, an equivalent sum will be deleted under Head 361.

As there will be no additional expenditure in excess of the amounts already provided under Head 341 by the end of 2008-09, the Revised Estimate for 2008-09 under Head 361 is \$0.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Stephen Fisher
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	20 March 2009

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- Question : (a) Are the following organisations/services/units eligible for applying grants from the Lotteries Fund (LF)?
- charitable organisations (approved by Inland Revenue Department under S.88 of Inland Revenue Ordinance) which do not receive regular subvention from the Social Welfare Department (hereafter called “non-subvented non-governmental organisations (NGOs)”);
 - non-subvented service units (operated by subvented NGOs or non-subvented NGOs) which provide services of the same nature of subvented services, e.g. neighbour elderly centre; and
 - non-subvented services (operated by subvented NGOs or non-subvented NGOs) which are proven to be providing quality welfare services to vulnerable groups but not totally of the same nature of any subvented services.
- (b) If they are eligible, how many of them being granted LF in the past three years (2006-07 to 2008-09)? How many of them were turned down and the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

- Reply : (a) Non-subvented NGOs or non-subvented service units/services operated by subvented NGOs may apply for grants from the LF, subject to their meeting the criteria stipulated in the LF Manual. The applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis having regard to their individual merits.
- (b) In the past three years, LF grants were approved for 26 non-subvented social welfare services operated by subvented NGOs or non-subvented NGOs. Three LF applications from non-subvented NGOs were turned down because they did not meet the criteria.

Signature	_____
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Date	20 March 2009