

(Translation)

**Hon LAM So-wai's motion on
"Reviewing Hong Kong's mental health policy"**

Wording of the Motion

That the 14th Five-Year National Health Plan has identified seven tasks, including improving mental well-being and mental health services; recently, quite a number of tragedies relating to persons in mental recovery have occurred in Hong Kong, arousing extensive concern in society; the waiting time for psychiatric specialist outpatient ('SOP') services at Hong Kong's public hospitals is long, and according to the information of the Hospital Authority, from April 2023 to March 2024, the waiting time for new psychiatric SOP cases in the New Territories East Cluster is the longest, reaching 99 weeks, which is a worrying situation; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to:

- (1) review the existing mental health policy;
- (2) allocate additional resources to public healthcare institutions for improving mental health services;
- (3) strengthen the cooperation between public and private healthcare institutions in the area of psychiatric treatment, so as to shorten the waiting time for psychiatric SOP services; and
- (4) subsidize persons in mental recovery to seek consultation at private healthcare institutions, so as to alleviate the pressure on the psychiatric services of public healthcare institutions.