



Gordon WU
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To <bestrong@fhp.gov.hk>
cc
bcc
Subject Consultation document 'Your health, your life'

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Dear Dr Chow,

Here are the main points of my opinions in relation to the consultation document 'Your health, your life'. I will focus on broader principle issues.

- Article 107 of the Basic Law stipulates that the Hong Kong SAR shall follow the principle of keeping expenditure within the limits of revenues.
- As the Financial Secretary, the Hon John C Tsang, said in his budget speech, he will keep 'expenditure within the limits of revenues' and follow 'the direction of "Market Leads, Government Facilitates".
- The Financial Secretary also said that he will 'uphold the principle of "Big Market, Small Government", so that the share of public expenditure will be maintained at 20 per cent or below of GDP.'
- The government should constantly review administrative expenses and efficiency.
- The government should guard against wasting public money.
- Extra funds for healthcare should not be raised through taxation.
- If the public are to contribute further, the contribution of each contributor should be for his own good (ie, similar to insurance and mutual funds, where each contributor has a separate account). It should be further studied whether health insurance can play a role.
- Currently, medical fees and medical insurance fees provide the public with some incentives to take care of their own health. In the future, the incentive should be greater.
- Currently, medical fees provide the public with some incentives to use medical resources more efficiently (or to waste less). In the future, the incentive should be greater.
- Notwithstanding what is said above, taxpayers generally support a safety net. However, the exact size is difficult to determine.
- The government should consider what goods and services can be left to the market.

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