



"matthew lee"

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To bestrong@fhb.gov.hk

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Subject Be Strong consultation paper

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This is my opinion to the consultation paper for Hong Kong's health financing arrangement.

The concerns about ageing population and rising medical costs are real and must be dealt with. But I have not found any wordings about cost cutting in the consultation papers.

Being a responsible government, it should look into itself and find every possible way to cut cost before stretching the hands into the people's pockets. Before your department comes up with strings of suggestions on how to cut cost, none of the proposed financing plans seems wise. Without a sound way on how to spend public money wisely, no budget in the world is sufficient to cover the rising cost brought by ageing population and expensive medicines. This is not only Hong Kong's problem.

The Hospital Authority, for example, is not spending public money wisely judged by its grand headquarters used mainly for HA conferences, the highly paid executives who are responsible for administration work.

Some may find these administration cost necessary, but the point is the government should show the public that it will FIRST look into all possibilities of costcutting, before looking into our pockets. The tax taxpayers pay every year, if the government has forgot, is supposed to cover all public expenses such as health, education, road work, government administration...etc. When there's not enough money, that means some part of the government is overspending.

I, I assume like many, don't mind paying more for better medical services. But the big white elephant must also downsize a little. That's a prerequisite for any sort of medical financing.

Lee