

Statistics Advisory Board discusses developments of official statistics work

The Statistics Advisory Board held a meeting today (November 7) to discuss official statistics work and its recent developments.

Members noted that online purchases of goods and services by households in Hong Kong are adequately captured in key official statistics compiled by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), including the Consumer Price Index, retail sales statistics, external merchandise trade statistics, and the Private Consumption Expenditure component of the Gross Domestic Product. In the meeting, members also discussed plans in hand to further improve the measurement of statistics on online purchases.

Members also noted that the C&SD is exploring the application of big data text analytics in its statistical work and discussed how to take forward the development.

The Commissioner for Census and Statistics and Chairperson of the Statistics Advisory Board, Ms Marion Chan, said, "The C&SD will continue to explore big data analytics and identify potential applications in statistical work, with a view to improving existing statistical systems and meeting new statistical needs."

The Statistics Advisory Board is a non-statutory advisory body which advises the Commissioner for Census and Statistics on matters pertaining to government statistical work. Its membership consists of professionals from the business sector, the academia and the community, which provides for a wide representation to assist the Commissioner in integrating views of data users, data suppliers and statisticians. The terms of reference and composition of the Board can be found on the C&SD website (www.censtatd.gov.hk/about_us/our_advisory_board/index.jsp).