

Belmonte pushes data collection in 2019

QUEZON City Vice Mayor **Joy Belmonte** bared plans to collect beginning this year comprehensive records on health, livelihood, education and other concerns of city residents to identify areas that need further government attention.

"I have mentioned several times that we need more data on different areas for us to find out the issues that require more attention; I observed that it is what we lack as of the moment, that's why we can't pinpoint which aspects should we prioritize," Belmonte said.

The vice mayor said the lack of data on the status of residents makes it difficult to formulate appropriate ordinances and programs and services.

"Without accurate data, it is hard to create projects we are supposed to give to the public. For example, in health, we do not know the usual causes of death

in our city; we do not know the most common illnesses among our people and because of that, we can't provide programs that can better promote the prevention of those illnesses," she explained.

In December last year, Belmonte allocated P20 million for the city's data collection that would commence in the first quarter of the year.

"I have already allocated P20 million for us to have a data gathering component so there will be some person who will ask the people about their health conditions and any other concern," she said.

Belmonte said the data gathering was also part of her preparations in case she gets elected as mayor next year.

Some of the areas that the vice mayor wants covered in the data collection are livelihood, education, employment, performing groups, sports and health.