

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 11 June 2004)

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Review of CSSA and OAA

At the meeting on 8 July 2002, the Administration agreed to report to members on the findings of the overall review of CSSA and OAA and consult the public on any proposed changes. OAA was discussed at the 9 December 2002 meeting under Financial Support for Older Persons, and an update on CSSA was given by the Administration on 10 February 2003.

The subject was covered in the Legislative Council Brief on 'The Way Forward for the Social Security System' issued on 25 February 2003 to Members

2. Proposed Unemployment Relief Fund

At the Panel meeting on 10 October 2002, Ms LI Fung-ying proposed to invite the Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food to brief members on the proposed Unemployment Relief Fund. According to the Administration, the subject will be considered in the context of CSSA Review under item 1 above.

The subject was covered in the Legislative Council Brief on 'The Way Forward for the Social Security System' issued on 25 February 2003 to Members in the context of the proposed intensified support for self-reliance measures

3. Progress of the formation of Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centres

Item proposed by Hon WONG Sing-chi at the meeting on 7 July 2003.

To be fixed

4. Report of the Subcommittee on Guardianship and Custody of the Law Reform Commission (LRC)

At the meeting held on 11 March 2002, members agreed that the Administration should brief the Panel on the above report when it became available.

To be fixed after the LRC issues the remaining report on the subject of guardianship and custody

Proposed timing for discussion

5. Study on the perceptions and experiences of discrimination of people with mental illness in Hong Kong

The above study was jointly conducted by the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Department of Psychiatry of The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Department of Social Work of the Hong Kong Baptist University. Three relevant papers on the study were issued to the Panel on Home Affairs, and copied to all LegCo Members, on 28 November 2002 vide LC Paper Nos. CB(2)487/02-03(01) to (03). In response to a member's request for discussion, the Panel on Home Affairs agreed at its meeting on 10 January 2003 that since the subject came under the Health, Welfare and Food Bureau, it should be referred to the Panel on Welfare Services for follow-up action. Responses to the points raised in the study report being collated from relevant government bureau/departments and the HA.

To be fixed

6. Subsidy arrangements for residential care services for frail elders

The Administration undertook to consult members on the finalised Fee Assistance Scheme for residential care services for frail elders, taking into account the suggestion of establishing a separate financial assistance scheme for elders and other views expressed by members on the matter on 12 May 2003.

To be fixed

7. Portable CSSA Scheme

Item proposed by Hon CHAN Yuen-han and Hon CHOY So-yuk. In particular, Miss CHOY proposed to expand the coverage of the Portable CSSA Scheme to Fukien Province and other provinces and relaxing the permissible limits of absence from Hong Kong.

To be fixed

8. Evaluation of the re-engineered community support services for elders

Item proposed by Hon CHAN Yuen-han.

To be fixed

Proposed timing for discussion

9. Measures to help single parents on CSSA to achieve self-reliance

At the meeting on 9 February 2004, the Administration agreed to revert to the Panel improvement measures to help single parents achieve self-reliance, upon completion of the review on the entire issue of single parents on CSSA.

To be fixed

10. Social welfare planning mechanism, subvention system for the welfare sector and efficiency savings with regard to the welfare sector in the period from 2005-06 to 2008-09

At the meeting on 8 March 2004, the Administration was requested to brief members in June 2004 on the progress made for implementing the 0-0-X funding proposal for the welfare sector and the development of a blueprint for the social welfare policies, and to respond to the Hong Kong Council of Social Service's requests for reviewing the Lump Sum Grant subvention system, in particular the aspect relating to funding of personal emoluments.

To be fixed

11. Operation of the SARS Trust Fund

At the meeting on 10 May 2004, the Administration agreed to revert to the Panel operation of the SARS Trust Fund, in response to a series of complaint lodged by a deputation with Duty Roster Members.

To be fixed

12. Support for vulnerable elders

At the meeting on 10 May 2004, members agreed that should the Panel decide to hold a meeting in July 2004, consideration should be given to further discussing support for vulnerable elders. The discussion should also include the impact of the re-engineering of family services centres/counselling units into Integrated Family Service Centres on support for vulnerable elders.

To be fixed

**Proposed timing for
discussion**

13. Items proposed by the Administration

See **Appendix**.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
11 June 2004

Panel on Welfare Services

Agenda items proposed by the Administration

<u>Proposed Items</u>	<u>Proposed Timing for Discussion</u>
1. Control of charitable fund-raising activities	July 2004
2. Pilot project on accreditation system for residential care services for the elders in Hong Kong	July 2004
3. Conversion of self-care hostel and home for the aged places into Long Term Care places	To be fixed