

立法會
Legislative Council

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Subcommittee to Study the Subject of Combating Poverty

Proposed work plan of the Subcommittee

Purpose

This paper proposes a work plan for the Subcommittee to Study the Subject of Combating Poverty (the Subcommittee) and the time frame for completion of work.

Terms of Reference of the Subcommittee

2. The Terms of Reference of the Subcommittee are "To study the subject of combating poverty."

Subcommittee's work plan

3. The Subcommittee agreed that it would provide a report on each topic of study area after listening to the views of deputations and discussion with the Administration. The report will cover the views obtained, and the issues of concern and recommendations of the Subcommittee. The reports will be forwarded to the Administration for follow up.

4. At its meeting on 12 July 2005, the Subcommittee agreed to accord priority to the study of two topics, i.e. working poverty and women in poverty. The Report on Working Poverty and the Report on Women in Poverty were presented to the House Committee (HC) and debates were held on these reports at the Council meetings on 15 February and 5 July 2006 respectively.

5. The Subcommittee agreed at its meetings on 22 June and 9 November 2006 that the third and fourth study areas would be the elderly in poverty and the development of social enterprises in helping the unemployed and disadvantaged.

6. After completion of its work on the four selected areas of study, the Subcommittee would discuss the strategies to follow up with the Administration the progress made in implementing specific recommendations made by the Subcommittee.

Proposed time frame for completion of outstanding work

(a) Study on the elderly in poverty : to be completed by April/May 2007

7. In discussing the topic on elderly in poverty, the key issues studied by the Subcommittee include the situation of elderly in poverty in Hong Kong, the causes of elderly in poverty and problems faced by elders, and the measures to assist the needy elders.

8. The Subcommittee will hold a further meeting on 8 March 2007 to discuss the draft report on elderly in poverty. Subject to members' views on the draft report, the Subcommittee will present the report to HC in April/May 2007. The Subcommittee will also consider making a proposal to HC for moving a motion on the subject matter at the Council meeting.

(b) Study on the development of social enterprises in Hong Kong : to be completed by November/December 2007

9. The major areas of work and proposed time frame are as follows –

- (i) Collating of background information such as preparation of background brief, research studies, meetings to receive views from deputations, and discussion on the subject matter
(May/June to July 2007)
- (ii) Duty visit to study the overseas experience in August 2007 to facilitate the study on the subject matter
- (iii) Drafting of reports on the development of social enterprises and the overseas duty visit, and discussion on the draft reports
(September to November/December 2007)
- (iv) Presentation of the reports to HC in November/December 2007 and proposal for moving of motion on the subject matter at Council meeting.

10. The key issues to be studied by the Subcommittee will include : the study of social enterprise development in Hong Kong, the problems faced by the sector, Government's policy in providing its support for social enterprise

development, overseas experience in promoting social enterprise development, the potential for development of social enterprise in Hong Kong, and enhancement of measures to create an enabling environment for such development .

(c) Overall review of the Subcommittee's work : to be completed by April 2008

11. The Subcommittee will meet with the Administration in January to April 2008 to discuss the implementation of the recommendations made in the Subcommittee's four reports relating to working poverty, women in poverty, elderly in poverty and the development of social enterprises.

(d) Subcommittee's final report : to be completed by June 2008

12. The Subcommittee will prepare its final report which will focus on the Administration's implementation of the specific recommendations made by the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee will complete its work upon presentation of the final report to HC in June 2008.

Advice sought

13. Subject to members' agreement to the above time-frame, the Subcommittee will provide its work plan and the time frame for completion of work to HC for information.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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