

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)97/09-10  
(These minutes have been  
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB2/PL/WS

**Panel on Welfare Services**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Thursday, 15 October 2009, at 5:00 pm**  
**in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon WONG Sing-chi (Chairman)  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Hon LI Fung-ying, BBS, JP  
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip  
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon Paul CHAN Mo-po, MH, JP  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, BBS  
Hon IP Wai-ming, MH  
Dr Hon PAN Pey-chyou
- Member absent** : Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
- Clerk in attendance** : Miss Betty MA  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

**Staff in attendance** : Miss Florence WONG  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 5

Ms Karen LAI  
Council Secretary (2) 2

Miss Maggie CHIU  
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

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**I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman for the 2009-2010 session**  
[Appendices III and IV to LC Paper No. CB(2)3/09-10]

Election of Chairman

Mr Albert CHAN, Chairman of the Panel in office, called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session. Mr WONG Sing-chi was nominated by Ms LI Fung-ying and the nomination was seconded by Mr LEE Cheuk-yan, Mr WONG Kwok-kin, Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr Paul CHAN and Mr Frederick FUNG. Mr WONG accepted the nomination.

2. As there was no other nomination, Mr Albert CHAN declared Mr WONG Sing-chi elected as Chairman of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session. Mr WONG Sing-chi then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. The Chairman called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che was nominated by Mr WONG Kwok-kin and the nomination was seconded by Mr Paul CHAN, Ms LI FUNG-ying, Mr Alan LEONG and Mr LEE Cheuk-yan. Mr CHEUNG accepted the nomination.

4. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che elected as Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2009-2010 session.

**II. Schedule of meetings for the 2009-2010 session**

5. Members agreed that regular meetings of the Panel would be held on the second Monday of each month at 10:45 am. A schedule of meetings for the 2009-2010 session would be issued to members after the meeting.

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(*Post-meeting note* : The meeting schedule was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)4/09-10 on 16 October 2009).

**III. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

[Appendices V and VI to LC Paper No. CB(2)3/09-10]

Regular meeting on 9 November 2009

6. Members agreed to discuss the following two items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 9 November 2009 –

- (a) Integrated Discharge Support Trial Programme for elderly patients; and
- (b) Annual adjustment of payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme and the Social Security Allowance Scheme.

7. Citing the remarks made by the Chief Executive (CE) at the CE's Question and Answer Session on the same day that households with income below the average CSSA payments were those living in poverty, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed grave concern about the poverty situation in Hong Kong and suggested that the Administration should be invited to brief members on the definition of "poverty" adopted in formulating poverty alleviation measures at the next regular meeting. Members agreed.

8. The Chairman reminded members that the Panel would hold a special meeting on 22 October 2009 to receive briefings from the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on relevant policy initiatives in the CE's Policy Address 2009-2010.

**IV. Any other business**

Subcommittee on Poverty Alleviation

9. The Chairman said that the Subcommittee on Poverty Alleviation had been formed under the Panel since February 2009 and the work of the Subcommittee would continue in the new session.

10. The Chairman added that the membership of the Subcommittee would be re-opened to Panel members and it would be for the Subcommittee to decide whether re-election of its Chairman was necessary at its first meeting.

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Residential care services for the elderly and persons with disabilities (PWDs)

11. Pointing out that the welfare sector was concerned about the initiatives announced in the Policy Address 2009-2010 in respect of the provision of residential care services for the elderly and PWDs, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the Panel should consider appointing a subcommittee under the Panel to follow up the progress of the relevant initiatives.

12. The Chairman said that members might wish to consider the proposal to appoint a subcommittee after receiving briefings from the Administration on relevant policy initiatives in the CE's Policy Address 2009-2010. Ms LI Fung-ying concurred with the Chairman. Ms LI added that the Panel might consider discussing the provision of residential care services for the elderly and PWDs at the December meeting. Members agreed. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che said that he would put forward the proposal in writing for members' consideration at the next meeting if so warranted.

13. The Chairman reminded members that as the number of subcommittees on policy issues had reached the maximum number of eight, any newly appointed subcommittee would be placed on the waiting list to be considered by the House Committee in accordance with House Rule 26.

14. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:17 pm.