

立法會
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Panel on Welfare Services

**Subcommittee on Residential and Community Care Services
for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly**

**Minutes of the 10th meeting
held on Monday, 24 January 2011, at 2:30 pm
in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building**

Members present : Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Chairman)
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Hon WONG Sing-chi
Hon IP Wai-ming, MH
Dr Hon PAN Pey-chyou
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Public Officers attending : Item I

Mrs Cecilia YUEN
Assistant Director of Social Welfare
(Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services)

Mrs Helen KWOK
Chief Social Work Officer
(Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services)²
Social Welfare Department

**Attendance by : Item I
invitation**

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Mr Eddie SUEN
Rehabilitation Chief Officer

Caritas - Hong Kong

Mr Stephen WONG
Superintendent

Richmond Fellowship of Hong Kong

Dr FUNG Cheung-tim
Director

Amity Mutual Support Society

Miss CHUNG Siu-wa
Executive Committee Member (External Affairs)

Stewards Limited

Ms Dora TAM Sau-ling
Manager (Rehabilitation Service)

Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service

Ms CHAN Sau-kam
Senior Service Coordinator

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council

Ms WONG Sim-yim
Assistant Director

關注社會福利規劃平台

Mr CHEUNG Chor-kin
Representative

New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association

Miss LO Tak-ming
Professional Service Manager

Concern Group on Mental Rehabilitation Services,
Hong Kong Social Workers' General Union

Mr LAI King-him
Representative

Concord Mutual-Aid Club Alliance

Mr HUI Wai-chun
Executive Officer

The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention,
Hong Kong

Mr Andy NG Wang-tsang
Chief Executive

Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
Wong Chuk Hang Complex

Ms WAN Ho-yu

Clerk in attendance : Miss Betty MA
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

Staff in attendance : Ms Yvonne YU
Senior Council Secretary (2) 5

Miss Maggie CHIU
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

Action

I. Progress of expansion of the service mode of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)839/10-11(01) to (02), CB(2)884/10-11(01) to (03) and CB(2)903/10-11(01)]

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. The Subcommittee received views from 13 deputations on the progress of expansion of the service mode of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness ("ICCMW"). Major views of the deputations are summarised as follows -

- (a) ICCMWs encountered a lot of operational difficulties in implementing ICCMW services, such as lack of permanent premises, opposition from local residents for setting up ICCMWs and shortage of manpower. In the absence of permanent premises, ICCMW services were provided at temporary service points of individual ICCMWs, and thereby the service performance of ICCMWs was unduly affected. The service operators could only provide outreaching visits instead of one-stop community support services;
- (b) to solve the problem relating to ICCMW premises, deputations appealed to the Administration to adopt a flexible approach and streamline the procedures and processing time for allocating permanent premises for ICCMW purpose. In connection with the renting of commercial premises for ICCMWs, deputations called on the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") to expedite the approving process and provide rent subsidy for the purpose;
- (c) the Administration should have earmarked or reserved suitable permanent premises for ICCMW purpose at the planning stage of new development or redevelopment projects;
- (d) the Administration failed to consult the stakeholders on the service mode and enlist the support from local residents on the setting up of ICCMWs prior to the implementation of ICCMW services in various districts. The deputations urged the Administration to formulate a concrete implementation plan (including the securing of permanent accommodation), long-term social welfare planning and mental health policy; and

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- (e) the Administration should consider setting up a high-level inter-departmental working group to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation progress of the ICCMW services.

3. Members shared the view of the deputations and generally considered that the crux of the problem relating to ICCMW premises and shortage of manpower was attributed to the lack of consultation and concrete implementation plan for expanding the ICCMW services across the territory. Members were concerned about the actions taken by the Administration in identifying premises for ICCMWs and the measures to alleviate the manpower problem encountered by the operators. Members generally considered that the Administration should draw up a comprehensive implementation plan of ICCMW services, formulate a long-term plan for social welfare and mental health policy.

4. In response to the views of deputations and members, Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services) ("ADSW(RMSS)") advised that in order to solve the problems relating to ICCMW premises in the long run, the Administration was actively identifying suitable premises in various districts through long, medium and short term planning, as detailed in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Administration's paper.

5. ADSW(RMSS) said that SWD was mindful that in the absence of permanent accommodation, it would give flexibility to service operators to enable them to make optimal use of available resources under constrained circumstances. In connection with the arrangement of renting commercial premises for ICCMWs, ADSW(RMSS) advised that rental support would be provided to operators of ICCMWs for the purpose, the amount of which would be capped by the standard provision for a full-scale set of welfare premises in the public sector at \$45 per square metre. In addition, funding support from the Lotteries Fund would be provided to meet the non-recurrent commitments for the setting-up costs and procurement of furniture and equipment for ICCMW purpose.

6. Regarding the manpower of ICCMWs, ADSW(RMSS) advised that the Administration was fully aware of the competing demands for allied health staff in the medical and social welfare sectors, and that some ICCMWs were still in the process of recruiting psychiatric nurses and occupational therapists within their staffing establishment. To alleviate the shortage of manpower in the social welfare sector, SWD had organised enrolled nurse training classes and been actively exploring possible measures

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to increase the number of allied health staff, details of which were set out in paragraphs 12 to 15 of the Administration's paper.

7. ADSW(RMSS) added that the Social Welfare Advisory Committee ("SWAC") had concluded the second round consultation on the long-term social welfare planning in end-July 2010. Having thoroughly reviewed the view collected during the consultation period, SWAC was currently preparing a report on its analysis and recommendations. Upon receipt of the SWAC's report, the Administration would thoroughly analyse and study its recommendations and report to the Panel on Welfare Services in due course.

Admin

8. The Administration was requested to provide supplementary information on the latest progress in identifying suitable premises for each of the 24 service points providing ICCMW services, including the types of premises being in use for providing the service, the timetable for each of them to secure permanent accommodation, together with the problems/difficulties encountered by each ICCMW in securing permanent premises. The Administration was also requested to provide information on the measures to alleviate manpower problem encountered by the operators.

9. The Chairman said that the Subcommittee should follow up the progress of the implementation of the service mode of ICCMW at the next meeting. To facilitate discussion, the Administration was requested to provide the supplementary information mentioned in paragraph 8 above for the next meeting.

II. Continuation of work of the Subcommittee

[LC Paper No. CB(2)839/10-11(03)]

10. The Chairman sought members' views on the proposed continuation of the work of the Subcommittee in the 2010-2011 session as detailed in LC Paper No. CB(2)839/10-11(03). Members agreed to the continuation of the work of the Subcommittee in the 2010-2011 session. The Chairman said that pending approval of the Panel, a report would be made to the House Committee on 25 February 2011 on the justifications for continuing the work of the Subcommittee beyond the 12-month period.

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III. Any other business

11. The Chairman said that the next meeting would be scheduled for March 2011 to discuss the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Services for Persons with Severe Disabilities and the progress of expansion of the service mode of ICCMWs. Members agreed.

(Post-meeting note: The next meeting would be held on 28 March 2011 at 2:30 pm).

12. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:34 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
12 May 2011

**Proceedings of the 10th meeting of the
Subcommittee on Residential and Community Care Services
for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly
on Monday, 24 January 2011, at 2:30 pm
in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda item I – Progress of expansion of the service mode of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness</i>			
000000 - 000607	Chairman Administration	Briefing by the Administration on the progress of implementing the services of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness ("ICCMW") [LC Paper No. CB(2)839/10-11(01)]	
000608 - 001017	Chairman The Hong Kong Council of Social Service	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(01)] (a) ICCMW operators generally considered the service mode effective; and (b) ICCMWs encountered a lot of difficulties in securing permanent premises and renting private premises, soliciting local support for setting up ICCMWs and recruiting manpower of ICCMWs	
001018 - 001420	Caritas - Hong Kong	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(01)] (a) a flexible approach should be adopted in allocating permanent premises and approving funding for renting private premises for ICCMW purpose; and (b) the collaboration between the medical and welfare sector should be enhanced in providing community support services for ex-mentally ill persons	
001421 - 001818	Richmond Fellowship of Hong Kong	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)884/10-11(02)] (a) service operators encountered difficulties in recruiting professional personnel and securing premises for setting up ICCMWs; and (b) the Administration should establish a working group at bureau or higher level to solve the problems relating to ICCMW premises and streamline the process for allocation of premises for ICCMW purpose	
001819 - 001929	Amity Mutual Support	Expression of views -	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
	Society	<p>(a) inadequate activities were organised by ICCMWs and the response of participants was lukewarm; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration should consider monitoring the services of ICCMWs</p>	
001930 - 002140	Stewards Limited	<p>Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(01)]</p> <p>(a) ICCMWs were unable to provide a full range of services in temporary service points; and</p> <p>(b) the market rental for ICCMW premises, which ranged from \$15 to \$17 per square foot, exceeded the subvention on rental expenses (\$4.5 per square foot) provided by the Social Welfare Department ("SWD"), and therefore ICCMWs were unable to rent suitable private premises</p>	
002141 - 002349	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service	<p>Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(01)]</p> <p>View that additional provisions for creating a supervisory post within the staffing establishment of each ICCMW should be provided to enhance the operation and service development</p>	
002350 - 002429	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council	<p>Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(01)]</p> <p>(a) it was difficult to enlist local support to secure permanent accommodation for setting up an ICCMW in Tuen Mun, and</p> <p>(b) it could not recruit adequate manpower for delivering of ICCMW services</p>	
002430 - 002915	關注社會福利規劃平台	<p>Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(03)]</p> <p>(a) the problems relating to ICCMW premises and shortage of manpower were attributed to the Administration's lack of long-term social welfare planning. Suitable premises should be earmarked or reserved for ICCMW purpose at the planning stage of new development or redevelopment projects;</p> <p>(b) the service performance of ICCMWs operating at temporary service points was affected; and</p>	

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		(c) the Administration should enhance the transparency and public engagement in the planning of welfare services	
002916 - 003208	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association	<p>Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(01)]</p> <p>(a) in the absence of permanent premises, the service performance of ICCMWs were affected;</p> <p>(b) the setting up of ICCMWs faced strong local opposition;</p> <p>(c) the Administration should provide subsidy for renting premises and streamline the procedures and processing time for allocating permanent premises for ICCMW purpose; and</p> <p>(d) the Administration should formulate a long-term plan for the implementation of ICCMW services</p>	
003209 - 003618	Concern Group on Mental Rehabilitation Services, Hong Kong Social Workers' General Union	<p>Expression of views -</p> <p>(a) it was Government's responsibility to provide conveniently located premises for ICCMW purpose within six months;</p> <p>(b) the Administration should step up its efforts to promote the integration of ex-mentally ill persons into the community;</p> <p>(c) additional resources for frontline and management staff of ICCMWs should be provided in the relevant Funding and Service Agreements ("FSAs");</p> <p>(d) the Administration should spearhead the study on the rehabilitation needs of ex-mentally ill persons and their family carers with a view to devising a long-term plan for the implementation of ICCMW services; and</p> <p>(e) consideration should be given to integrating family services and the mental health services</p>	
003619 - 004108	Concord Mutual-Aid Club Alliance	<p>Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)903/10-11(01)]</p> <p>(a) the Government failed to formulate mental health policy, nor draw up long-term plan</p>	

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		<p>and conduct consultation on the implementation of the ICCMW services;</p> <p>(b) the Administration should solve the problems relating to ICCMW premises and provide permanent accommodation to ICCMWs; and</p> <p>(c) the Administration should enhance support for family carers of ex-mentally ill persons living in the community and consider introducing a carers allowance to relieve their financial burden</p>	
004109 - 004605	The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong	<p>Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(2)884/10-11(01)]</p> <p>(a) support for the implementation of ICCMW services to enhance one-stop community support services for ex-mentally ill persons;</p> <p>(b) in the absence of detailed planning and public consultation, the proposals of setting up ICCMWs were strongly opposed by the local community; and</p> <p>(c) the Administration should formulate the long-term social welfare planning and mental health policy</p>	
004606 - 004956	Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Wong Chuk Hang Complex	<p>Expression of views -</p> <p>(a) the Administration should formulate a mental health policy, devise a long-term plan and provide support for implementing ICCMW services;</p> <p>(b) the collaboration between the medical and social welfare sectors should be enhanced to ensure effective delivery of ICCMW services; and</p> <p>(c) the Administration should allocate more resources for ICCMWs to enhance the supervision and monitoring of the operation of ICCMWs</p>	
004957 - 011129	Chairman Administration	<p>The Administration's responses to deputations' views -</p> <p>(a) as undertaken in the 2010-2011 Policy Address, the Administration would strengthen the manpower of ICCMWs to handle more cases;</p>	

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		<p>(b) the Working Group on Mental Health Services, which was chaired by the Secretary for Food and Health, reviewed the mental health services and made suggestions for the formulation of various initiatives for service enhancement;</p> <p>(c) to solve the problems relating to ICCMW premises, the Administration was actively identifying suitable premises in various districts through long, medium and short term planning;</p> <p>(d) a flexible approach would be adopted to solve the problems relating to ICCMW premises, e.g. setting up ICCMWs on rented private premises, grants from Lotteries Funds to meet the setting-up costs. Consideration would be given to providing rental support for operators to rent private premises for setting up ICCMWs, the amount of which would be capped by the standard provision for a full-scale set of welfare premises in the public sector at \$45 per square metre;</p> <p>(e) to alleviate the shortage of nurses in the social welfare sector, SWD had since 2006 commissioned the Hospital Authority ("HA") to organise a two-year full-time Enrolled Nurse Training Programme dedicated for the social welfare sector. So far, seven classes had been organised and about 88% of the graduates joined the social welfare sector;</p> <p>(f) the Social Welfare Advisory Committee had concluded the consultation on the long-term social welfare planning, and was preparing the report. The Administration would study its recommendations and report to the Panel on Welfare Services in due course;</p> <p>(g) the Administration would continue to enhance local residents' understanding of ICCMWs and enlist local support for setting up ICCMWs; and</p> <p>(h) a Central Coordinating Group, co-chaired by SWD and HA and comprising representatives of the medical and social welfare sectors, was set up at the headquarters level to oversee the implementation progress of ICCMW service</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>and review the cross-sectoral collaboration among stakeholders. District Task Groups were set up at the district level to enhance cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration at the district level</p>	
011130 - 012011	<p>Chairman Mr Ronny TONG Mr HUI Wai-chun, Concord Mutual-Aid Club Alliance Mr Andy NG, The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong</p>	<p>Mr Ronny TONG's request for deputations' views on the specific issues to be resolved in the light of the operational experience of ICCMWs</p> <p>Mr HUI Wai-chun's views that following the demarcation of service boundaries of ICCMWs, service users might have to be transferred from the original community support services to the ICCMW within their respective residential districts. This had destroyed the community network of ex-mentally ill persons. For those ICCMWs which had no permanent accommodation, or those which were operated in temporary service points located outside the respective serving districts, they were unable to provide effective support services for the users</p> <p>Mr Andy NG's reiteration that the problems relating to ICCMW premises and shortage of manpower were largely due to the lack of long-term social welfare planning</p> <p>Mr Ronny TONG requested the Administration to provide written response to the deputations' concerns about the lack of permanent accommodation and inadequate manpower of ICCMWs</p>	<p>Admin</p>
012012 - 012533	<p>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Chairman</p>	<p>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's view that the difficulties encountered by ICCMW service operators were mainly due to the lack of concrete implementation plan</p>	
012534 - 012856	<p>Mr TAM Yiu-chung</p>	<p>Mr TAM Yiu-chung's view that the crux of the problem was the lack of premises and manpower of ICCMWs. The Administration should draw up long term planning for ICCMW premises and manpower, e.g. identifying suitable premises for ICCMW purpose at the planning stage</p>	
012857 - 013506	<p>Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung</p>	<p>Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung's view that the implementation of ICCMW services was hampered simply because of inadequate service preparation. In the light of the genuine difficulties in identifying vacant permanent premises for ICCMW purpose in the short term, he appealed to the Administration to adopt a flexible approach for service operators to rent private premises and draw up concrete long term</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		plan for identifying suitable permanent premises for ICCMWs	
013507 - 013743	Chairman Mr LAI King-him, Concern Group on Mental Rehabilitation Services, Hong Kong Social Workers' General Union	Mr LAI King-him's views that service users and frontline social workers had not been consulted on the service mode and boundaries of ICCMWs. In the absence of permanent premises, service operators could not reach the service users	
013744 - 014348	Mr CHEUNG Chor-kin, 關注社會福利規劃平台 Chairman Administration	Mr CHEUNG Chor-kin's concern about the work progress of relevant government departments in identifying suitable premises for providing ICCMW services across the territory The Administration reiterated that it was actively identifying suitable premises in various districts through long, medium and short term planning. Consideration was given to allowing ICCMWs to make use of the rent subsidy to rent private premises. The Administration was aware of the keen demand for allied health staff in the medical and social welfare sectors. SWD had provided the overall manpower projections to the University Grants Committee for reference by various institutions in drawing up their academic development proposals	
014349 - 014805	Mr Eddie SUEN, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service Administration Chairman	Mr Eddie SUEN's views - (a) the training programmes in place could not solve the manpower shortage problem in the short term. Consideration could be given to launching short-term training courses to increase the supply of professional staff in the social welfare sector including ICCMWs; and (b) corresponding resource adjustment should be provided under the relevant FSAs for recruiting additional manpower of ICCMWs The Administration's elaboration that it was committed to identifying suitable premises for ICCMW purpose in various districts. In formulating FSAs for ICCMWs, SWD would discuss with the service operators the specific service requirements stipulated under the relevant FSAs	
014806 - 015728	Chairman Administration	Concerns raised by the Chairman - (a) to enhance the competitiveness of ICCMWs in recruiting manpower, the Administration should consider providing more resources to	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>ICCMWs such that two increment points be granted to allied health staff in the social welfare sector;</p> <p>(b) the Administration should consider setting up a working group to follow up the progress of identifying premises for ICCMWs; and</p> <p>(c) the Administration should accord priority to allocating permanent premises for setting up ICCMWs as compared with other welfare facilities</p> <p>The Administration advised that premises for different welfare uses were allocated under an internal allocation mechanism</p> <p>Noting that only a few ICCMWs had secured permanent premise, the Chairman requested the Administration to provide the latest progress in identifying suitable premises for each of the 24 service points providing ICCMW services, including the types of premises being in use for providing the service, the timetable for each of them to secure permanent accommodation, together with the problems/difficulties encountered by each ICCMW in securing permanent premises</p>	Admin
015729 - 015841	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's reiteration that the Administration had failed to formulate a long-term plan for the implementation of ICCMW services	
015842 - 015959	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Chairman	The Administration was requested to provide information on the number of ICCMWs which were expected to be able to secure premises in the coming six months	Admin
<i>Agenda item II – Continuation of work of the Subcommittee</i>			
020000 - 020059	Chairman	Proposed continuation of the work of the Subcommittee in the 2010-2011 session [LC Paper No. CB(2) 839/10-11(03)]	
<i>Agenda item III – Any other business</i>			
020100 - 020305	Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung	Date and agenda items for the next meeting	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
12 May 2011