

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1583/12-13  
(These minutes have been  
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PS/1/12

**Panel on Welfare Services and Panel on Health Services**

**Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy**

**Minutes of the fourth meeting  
held on Tuesday, 26 March 2013, at 4:30 pm  
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)  
Hon TANG Ka-piu (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP  
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

**Members absent** : Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon CHAN Han-pan  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

**Public Officers attending** : Item I

Mrs Elina CHAN  
Principal Assistant Secretary (Welfare) 3  
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Miss Cecilla LI  
Assistant Director (Elderly)  
Social Welfare Department

**Attendance by : Item I  
invitation**

The Elderly Services Association of Hong Kong

Mr Kenneth CHAN  
Chairman

Hong Kong Association of Gerontology

Ms CHEUNG Yuk-har  
Executive Director

Concern Group on Elderly Community Care Services

Ms TONG Choi-ying  
Member

Labour and Welfare Group of Democratic Party

Mr LO Kin-hei

Association for the Rights of the Elderly

Dr LEE Kar-mut  
Chairperson

Policy Research Group of The Elderly Services  
Association of Hong Kong

Ms Grace LI  
Convener

The Elderly Care Alliance

Mr LO Wei-kai  
Administration Executive

Harmonic Recreation Society Limited

Mr Alex LI Wai  
Committee

長者社區服務關注組

Ms LEUNG Wai-chun  
Committee Member

Elderly Rights League (H.K.)

Ms LAU Sau-kam  
Vice-Chairperson

安老服務關注組

Miss YUEN Shuk-yan  
Community Organizer

Society for Community Organization

Ms CHAN Yuen-man  
Community Organizer

Hong Kong Evergreen Association of the Elderly

Miss YAU Chit-ye  
Chairlady

Hong Kong Psychogeriatric Association

Dr LAM Chi-leung  
Honorary Secretary

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Miss Grace CHAN  
Chief Officer (Elderly Service)

西貢長者地區網絡代表委員會

Mr LEE Man-kit

The Salvation Army Carer Association

Ms CHAN Fat-chuen  
Chairperson

全港長者及護老者權益聯席

Mr KWONG Wing-tai

將軍澳長者民生關注會

Ms CHEUNG Ngan-yip

Care-taker's Concern Group

Ms CHU Moon-chun

Member

Elderly Welfare Group

Mr LAI Ming-lai

Member

Ms YAN Ming-kit

Ms Doris YUNG Kit-chun

Carer Alliance of Dementia

Ms May CHEUNG Yuet-kam

Chairperson

**Clerk in attendance** : Mr Colin CHUI  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

**Staff in attendance** : Miss Karen LAI  
Council Secretary (2) 4

Miss Maggie CHIU  
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

Action

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- I. Planning for provision of community care services for the elderly and quality of such services**  
[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)825/12-13(01) to (02), CB(2)825/12-13(03), CB(2)866/12-13(01), CB(2)901/12-13(01) to (05) and CB(2)1502/12-13(01)]

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

Action

2. The Joint Subcommittee requested the Administration to –

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- (a) provide a clear definition on the "needy" group of elders in setting the benchmark indicators for various kinds of community care services for the elderly; and
- (b) provide a written response to the views expressed by members and deputations.

**II. Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting**

[LC Paper No. CB(2)548/12-13(07)]

3. The Chairman said that the provision of residential care services for the elderly would be discussed at the next meeting.

*(Post meeting note: As instructed by the Chairman, the agenda item for the next meeting scheduled for 23 April 2013 was changed to "Planning for the provision of home care and community care services for people with disabilities and quality of such services".)*

**III. Any other business**

4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6:32 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
10 July 2013

**Proceedings of the fourth meeting of the  
Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy  
on Tuesday, 26 March 2013, at 4:30 pm  
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda item I – Planning for provision of community care services for the elderly and quality of such services</i>			
000635 - 001302	Chairman Administration	Opening remarks  Briefing by the Administration on the various kinds of subsidized community care services ("CCS") for the elderly and carer support services. [LC Paper No. CB(2)825/12-13(01)]	
001303 - 001701	The Elderly Services Association of Hong Kong Chairman	Expressing concern that given the huge demand for residential care services ("RCS") from the elder population, the Administration should review the overall elderly care services with a view to developing a proper balance between the provision of RCS and CCS.	
001702 - 002016	Hong Kong Association of Gerontology Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(01)]  Views that the Administration should -  (a) consider establishing a one-stop service unit to reintegrate the existing CCS under three areas, namely centre-based services, home-based services, and carers' training and support; and a user-oriented and case management approach should be adopted;  (b) introduce a quality assurance mechanism as more private operators would provide CCS with the launch of a new funding mode in the coming Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher");  (c) consider introducing an insurance system for long-term care services, so as to ensure the provision of adequate resources for developing such services; and  (d) organize educational and training programmes to ensure adequate manpower supply, in particular front-line care workers, for the provision of CCS for the elderly.	
002017 - 002327	Concern Group on Elderly Community	Presentation of views as follows – [LC Paper No. CB(2)825/12-13(03)]	

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	Care Services Chairman	<p>(a) disappointed that the government subsidies (unit cost) for the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services ("EHCCS") was reduced to \$3,500. The amount of subsidies should be raised in view of the inflation and increase in staff cost;</p> <p>(b) the Dementia Supplement, currently offered to subvented residential care homes and day care centres, should be extended for the benefit of demented elders living in the community; and</p> <p>(c) the salary and job prospect of front-line care workers should be improved to attract more people to join the workforce.</p>	
002328 - 002645	Labour and Welfare Group of Democratic Party Chairman	Views and concerns about benchmark indicators and service pledges for RCS and CCS; and the range of services for the coming Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher.	
002646 - 002942	Association for the Rights of the Elderly Chairman	<p>Presentation of views as follows – [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(02)]</p> <p>Non-support of the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher given the lack of manpower and a quality assurance mechanism. The Administration should instead have better planning for increasing the service quotas of subvented CCS for the elderly.</p>	
002943 - 003315	Policy Research Group of The Elderly Services Association of Hong Kong Chairman	Concerns about the inadequacy of manpower for elderly services and worrying that the launch of the CCS Voucher Scheme would aggravate the manpower shortage in residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs"). Supporting the importation of front-line care workers.	
003316 - 003624	The Elderly Care Alliance Chairman	Expressing the view that the Administration should accord high priority to coping with the manpower shortage in elderly care services.	
003625 - 003941	Harmonic Recreation Society Limited Chairman	The acute manpower shortage in elderly services was attributed to the lack of long-term welfare planning. With the launch of new initiatives and set up of more residential care homes, the Administration should ensure that adequate staff could be recruited.	
003942 - 004237	長者社區服務關注組 Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(03)]</p> <p>Expressing the view that it was the wish of many elders to age in place and urging the Administration to review the delivery mode of</p>	

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		CCS such as the service hours of meal delivery and escorting service.	
004238 - 004540	Elderly Rights League (H.K.) Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(03)]  Urging the Administration to build more RCHEs so that the waiting time for subvented places could be shortened.	
004541 - 004857	安老服務關注組 Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(03)]  (a) services for elders discharged from hospitals should be strengthened, including physiotherapy, rehabilitation, and escorting services for medical consultations;  (b) the Administration should relax the eligibility criteria of the subsidies for home-based services offered under the Community Care Fund ("CCF") to allow elders not on the waiting list of Integrated Home Care Services ("IHCS") to apply for the subsidies; and  (c) the deputation was against the privatization of CCS under the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher and called on the Administration to consider offering cash voucher as support for carers of elders.	
004858 - 005206	Society for Community Organization Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(03)]  Views that the Administration should review the existing home-based CCS to enhance its flexibility and strengthen home-based support for singleton elders; and in long-term planning, should allocate more resources to enhance the manpower supply in the welfare sector.	
005207 - 005501	Hong Kong Evergreen Association of the Elderly Chairman	Expressing reservations on the launch of the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher in September 2013 and urging the Administration to have careful planning in regard to service categories, scope of coverage in selected districts, readiness of non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") and social enterprises ("SEs") in offering quality services and adequacy of manpower supply.	
005502 - 005830	Hong Kong Psychogeriatric Association Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)866/12-13(01)]  The Administration was urged to -	



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		<p>(a) reintegrate the various home-based services such as EHCCS, IHCS, and the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for the Elderly into a more coordinated programme of elderly services;</p> <p>(b) review the assessment tools of the Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services ("SCNAMES") to address the long-term care needs of elders suffering psychogeriatric illness or having symptoms of dementia; and</p> <p>(c) revamp the existing services for mental wellness in the community.</p>	
005831 - 010206	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(04)]</p> <p>(a) the Administration should formulate long-term care policy and set out clear objectives as soon as possible, in particular identifying premises for RCHes and strengthening manpower supply;</p> <p>(b) service quotas for centre-based services should be increased by at least 10% annually, and service quotas for individual districts should be set according to the size of elder population; and</p> <p>(c) if the Administration implemented a pilot scheme on carers' allowance, it should be a long-term endeavor in elderly services, instead of a poverty alleviation measure.</p>	
010207 - 010441	西貢長者地區網絡代表 委員會 Chairman	<p>Concern about the lack of coordination and overall planning for the provision of CCS, and calling on the Administration to reintegrate the fragmented services.</p>	
010442 - 010734	The Salvation Army Carer Association Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)901/12-13(05)]</p> <p>The Administration was urged to –</p> <p>(a) increase the service quotas with reference to the anticipated demand for CCS;</p> <p>(b) review the service scope to cater for the needs of more elders;</p> <p>(c) conduct continuous review and evaluation on the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher;</p>	

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		<p>(d) set up an allowance for carers of elders to recognise their contributions and provide subsidies for elders to purchase medical and rehabilitation products; and</p> <p>(e) promote a caring culture in family.</p>	
010735 - 011017	<p>全港長者及護老者權益 聯席 Chairman</p>	<p>Concern about the lack of long-term commitment and a holistic planning of the Government in the provision of CCS for the elderly.</p>	
011018 - 011252	<p>將軍澳長者民生關注會 Chairman</p>	<p>Views on the inadequacy of meal delivery services (once per day) and urging the Administration to review the related services to facilitate elders to age in place.</p>	
011253 - 011616	<p>Care-taker's Concern Group Chairman</p>	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1502/12-13(01)]</p> <p>Suggestions that the Administration should provide home-based services to elders according to their level of impairment, and elders suffering dementia should be taken care of in RCHEs.</p>	
011617 - 011927	<p>Elderly Welfare Group Chairman</p>	<p>Views that the Administration should reintegrate the existing CCS to suit the needs of elders in the community, identify more sites for the construction of RCHEs in districts which were convenient to the elders, and offer more training opportunities to practitioners of elderly care services.</p>	
011928 - 012227	<p>Ms YAN Ming-kit Chairman</p>	<p>Concerns about the lack of support and services for demented elders and their carers, and urging the Administration to review the salaries and promotion ladder of front-line care staff.</p>	
012228 - 012557	<p>Ms Doris YUNG Kit-chun Chairman</p>	<p>Views that the Administration should consider adopting the overseas practice of defining dementia as a chronic disease and provide subsidies for demented persons (regardless of their age) and their carers.</p>	
012558 - 012912	<p>Carer Alliance of Dementia Chairman</p>	<p>Calling on the Administration to increase the service quotas of specialized service to dementia patients and set up day care centres in each district with extended service hours to relieve the pressure of carers, prevent early institutionalisation of elders, and alleviate the pressing demand for RCHE places.</p>	
012913 - 013508	<p>Chairman Administration</p>	<p>The Administration's response to deputations' views as follows -</p> <p>(a) RCS and CCS were offered to serve elderly</p>	

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		<p>people who had genuine care needs according to their levels of impairment assessed by SCNAMES;</p> <p>(b) the existing CCS development was not yet matured. The Administration had rolled out new initiatives to provide more flexible services, for example, the CCS Voucher to be launched in September 2013 would provide elders with a mixed mode of home care and part-time day care services;</p> <p>(c) NGOs and SEs invited to provide services under the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher would not overlap with service providers of existing subsidized CCS so as to avoid aggravating the acute manpower shortage;</p> <p>(d) training programmes for different ranks of staff for elderly services had been organized, including the occupational therapy and physiotherapy programmes offered by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, enrolled nurses training programme, and training courses for front-line care staff;</p> <p>(e) Qualifications Framework was being developed for the elderly service sector to promote lifelong learning and enhance the career prospect of the local workforce; and</p> <p>(f) the CCF Task Force under the Commission on Poverty was exploring the feasibility of a pilot scheme under CCF to provide an allowance for carers of the elderly.</p>	
013509 - 014146	Mr TANG Ka-piu Chairman Administration	<p>Enquiries and views of Mr TANG Ka-piu as follows –</p> <p>(a) whether elders on the Central Waiting List for RCS under SCNAMES had been provided with subsidized CCS and, if so, any manpower planning and service pledge in this respect; and</p> <p>(b) the provision of residential respite services and temporary day care places for demented elders, apart from the 11 designated residential respite places provided by subvented RCHEs.</p> <p>The Administration's reply that –</p> <p>(a) under SCNAMES, elderly persons assessed to have long-term care needs could select a</p>	

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		<p>dual-option of both RCS and CCS, so that they would be provided with CCS while they were on the Central Waiting List for subsidized RCHE places. Currently some 3 000 elderly persons who had chosen the dual-option were receiving subsidized CCS. As the choice lay with the applicants, the Administration had difficulties in making a pledge as suggested by Mr TANG;</p> <p>(b) having said that, the Administration would continue to increase the provision of CCS places. The upcoming CCS Voucher Pilot Scheme was one of the initiatives to offer more choice for the elderly and their carers; and</p> <p>(c) apart from the 11 designated RCS respite places, casual vacancies of the subsidized places in all subvented nursing homes, care-and-attention homes, RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme as well as contract homes could be utilized for respite purpose for needy elderly.</p>	
014147 - 015318	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Chairman Administration	<p>Concern and enquiry of Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung that –</p> <p>(a) given that both CCS and RCS were important, the Administration should review and reintegrate CCS and RCS in terms of service mode and volume to address the genuine needs of elders; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration should provide a clear definition on the "needy" group of elders in setting the benchmark indicators for various kinds of CCS.</p> <p>The Chairman's request that the Administration should provide a written response to the enquiry (b) of Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung.</p> <p>Views of Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung that the Administration should set benchmark indicators for its elderly services and reserve more sites for building RCHEs to meet the elders' wish to stay at residential care homes in their familiar districts.</p> <p>The Administration's advice on its work to provide RCS and CCS –</p> <p>(a) sites in eight development projects had been earmarked for the construction of new contract RCHEs;</p>	<b>Admin</b>

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		<p>(b) the waiting time for subsidized CCS had been shortened. The average waiting time for home-based CCS places and day care places was some two months and nine months respectively; and</p> <p>(c) as regards the definition of the "needy" group of elders, services were provided to elderly persons according to their long-term care needs as specified in the assessment results under SCNAMES.</p>	
015319 - 020036	Chairman Administration	<p>Enquiries of the Chairman on whether the Administration had conducted research on the growth of elderly population, the changing needs of elders by different age groups; and reviewed the adequacy of related services to meet their changing needs.</p> <p>The Administration's reply that currently it relied on the assessment tools under SCNAMES to understand the needs of the elderly and admitted that there was room for review and improvement. The Administration would consult the welfare sector on how to improve and better utilize the assessment tools of SCNAMES to provide appropriate elderly care services.</p> <p>Summing up by the Chairman on the key issues of concern discussed by members and deputations including the unit cost of EHCCS, meal delivery services, limitations of the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher, and manpower shortage. The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the views expressed by members/deputations.</p>	<b>Admin</b>
<i>Agenda item II – Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting</i>			
020037 - 020049	Chairman	Date and discussion item for next meeting	