

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)753/13-14

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Panel on Welfare Services and Panel on Health Services

Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy

**Minutes of the sixth meeting
held on Tuesday, 28 May 2013, at 10:45 am
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 TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon CHAN Han-pan
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

Members absent : Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau

Public Officers attending : Item I

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

Mr Stephen SUI
Commissioner for Rehabilitation
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Miss Cecilla LI
Assistant Director (Elderly)
Social Welfare Department

Ms Michelle LAM
Acting Assistant Director (Rehabilitation and Medical
Social Services)
Social Welfare Department

**Attendance by : Item I
invitation**

Session One

The Association of Parents of the Severely Mentally
Handicapped

Mr LEE Chi-yung
Chairman

Hong Kong Association of Gerontology

Ms CHEUNG Yuk-har
Executive Director

Direction Association for the Handicapped

Mr LAW Wai-cheung
Vice Chairman

Hong Kong Blind Union

Mr WONG Chun-hang
Vice President

Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of
Hong Kong

Ms CHEUNG Fan-lan
Deputy Spokesperson of Welfare Services

1st Step Association

Ms NG Yan-yee
Centre-in-charge

Ms KWOK Lai-sheung

Ms LI Lai-han

Care-Takers Concern Groups

Ms CHU Moon-chun
Member

The Salvation Army Carer Association

Ms CHAN Fat-chuen
Chairperson

Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Lok Kwak District
Support Centre

Ms KWAN Chui-ping
Centre Supervisor

Grace Parent Association

Mr YIP Kie-chun
Chairman

Association of Women with Disabilities Hong Kong

Miss CHAN Yuk-lam
Executive Secretary

Harmonic Recreation Society

Mr LI Wai
Coordinator

Elderly Rights League (HK)

Ms LEE Suet-chun
Committee Member

長者社區服務關注組

Ms CHEN Mu-zhen
Committee Member

安老服務關注組

Ms XU To-xhi
Committee Member

Society for Community Organization

Miss YUEN Shuk-yan
Community Organizer

麗閣邨媽媽互助會

Ms LI Kit-mui
Committee Member

長沙灣託兒關注組

Ms TANG Ye-me
Committee Member

麗閣邨婦女權益關注組

Ms CHAN Man-lin
Committee Member

Sham Shui Po Carer Concern Group

Ms FUNG Li-qing
Committee Member

Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres

Mr LEUNG Shek-lun
Advocacy Officer

The Lion Rock Institute

Miss Sarah PEMBERTON
Research Assistant

Hong Kong Women Workers' Association

Mr SZE Ching-wee
Organizer

Session Two

Hong Kong Evangelical Church Social Service Centre

Mr WONG Tin-yau
Student Social Worker

The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation Centre on
Research and Advocacy

Ms HUNG Tak-fung
Manager

Association for the Rights of the Elderly

Dr LEE Kar-mut
Chairperson

Labour Party

Mr YIP Wing
Representative

Rehabilitation Alliance Hong Kong

Mr LAU Kwok-lam
Project Officer

天水圍照顧者關注會

Mr YUEN Ka-kit
Committee Member

Tin Shui Wai Community Development Network

Ms CHUNG Yuen-yee
Chairperson

將軍澳長者民生關注會

Mr CHEUNG Ngan-yip
Representative of the Elderly

全港長者及護老者權益聯席

Mr LI Cheung-wa
Representative of the Elderly

Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club

Ms Anita WONG
Elderly Services Director

Care for the Elderly Association Limited

Mr NG Ting-shan
Chairperson, Executive Committee

Hong Kong S.K.H. Lady MacLehose Centre

Mr Benson NG
Senior Service Coordinator (Elderly & Health)

Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service

Ms Maggie SIU
Service Coordinator (Elderly)

The Salvation Army Yau Tsim Integrated Service for
Senior Citizens

Mr Pitmas SIOK
Services Supervisor

Hong Kong Family Welfare Society

Ms Stephanie WONG
Social Work Consultant

關注照顧者權益聯盟

Ms CHENG Hoi-wan
Representative

天水圍照顧者權益會

Mr CHAN Wai-lun
Representative

Civic Party

Mr Zico MAN
Representative

長者政策監察聯席-聯席之友

Mr TONG Sin-ching
Member

耆康會(柴灣中心)

Mr LAW Tat-man
Chairman

明愛長者聯會

Mr FUNG Hing
First Vice Chairman

Elderly Council of Hong Kong Christian Service

Ms WONG Lan-kwan
Member

Hong Kong Federation of Handicapped Youth

Mr LEUNG Wai-kin
Policy Advocacy Officer

The Democratic Party

Ms CHAN Shu-ying
Spokesperson

Carer Alliance for the People with Dementia

Ms YAN Ming-kit
Member

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

I. Support and allowance for carers

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1178/12-13(01) to (06)]

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

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2. The Joint Subcommittee requested the Administration to provide the utilization rates of residential respite places offered by subvented residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs"), and those by private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme.

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

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

3. The Joint Subcommittee agreed that "Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Vouchers for the Elderly" would be discussed at the next meeting, and deputations would be invited to give views on the subject matter.

III. Any other business

4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:38 pm.

**Proceedings of the sixth meeting of the
Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy
on Tuesday, 28 May 2013, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda item I – Support and allowance for carers</i>			
000800 - 001733	Chairman Administration	<p>Session One opening remarks</p> <p>Briefing by the Administration on the support services for carers of the elderly and persons with disabilities; and its initial thinking on introducing a carer allowance for the elderly. [LC Paper No. CB(2)1178/12-13(01)]</p>	
001734 - 002042	The Association of Parents of the Severely Mentally Handicapped Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1212/12-13(01)]</p> <p>(a) seeking the Administration's response on whether respite services for children with disabilities aged below 15 would soon be ceased; and its plan to increase the quotas for respite services for children with disabilities and persons with disabilities with long term care ("LTC") needs;</p> <p>(b) allowance for carers of persons with disabilities should not be means-tested;</p> <p>(c) service hours for community care services ("CCS") for persons with disabilities should be extended beyond office hours; and service charge for the home care services for persons with severe disabilities should be lowered;</p> <p>(d) services currently offered by the 16 District Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities ("DSCs") should be enhanced; and</p> <p>(e) the Administration should reinstate the issuance of White Paper to gauge public views on its rehabilitation policies and social welfare planning.</p>	
002043 - 002350	Hong Kong Association of Gerontology Chairman	<p>Suggestions by the deputation on –</p> <p>(a) the extension of service hours of respite services offered by day care centres/units for the elderly beyond office hours and during holidays;</p> <p>(b) increasing the service quotas and simplifying</p>	

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		<p>application procedures of respite services for the convenience of the elderly; and</p> <p>(c) the home-based care services for frail elderly should be strengthened.</p>	
002351 - 002700	Hong Kong Blind Union Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(01)]</p> <p>(a) support for blind persons and their families should be strengthened, including training for carers, improving physical settings of home environment, barrier-free access and facilities in the community, and useful information on services to visually impaired persons; and</p> <p>(b) an allowance should be provided for carers of blind persons to alleviate their financial burden.</p>	
002701 - 003014	Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong Chairman	<p>Presentation of views as follows –</p> <p>(a) financial assistance and counselling support should be offered for carers;</p> <p>(b) a pledge should be made on waiting time for subvented residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs"), so that carers could plan ahead for the caring services for the elderly;</p> <p>(c) the quota of respite services should be increased, and tailor-made services and training be provided for demented elderly persons; and</p> <p>(d) remuneration and retirement protection should be offered for carers to recognize their contributions.</p>	
003015 - 003340	1st Step Association Chairman	Expressing disappointment at the Administration's refusal to accede to the deputation's long-pursued request for carers allowance; urging the Administration to conduct a comprehensive review of its rehabilitation measures which were ineffective in addressing the needs of persons with disabilities, and to introduce a cash allowance for carers of persons with disabilities.	
003341 – 003535	Ms KWOK Lai-sheung Chairman	Views that the Administration should strengthen the provision of respite services and financial assistance to alleviate the pressure of carers of persons with disabilities.	
003536 - 003801	Ms LI Lai-han Chairman	Expressing grievances of carers of persons with disabilities in terms of their stress and financial	

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		burden; and requesting the Administration to offer concessionary fare on public transport to carers of persons with disabilities, and develop a one-stop information portal on its services for persons with disabilities.	
003802 - 004118	Care-Taker's Concern Group Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(02)]</p> <p>In support of an allowance set at one-third of the medium household income for carers who spent eight hours a day taking care of elderly persons or persons with disabilities; and urging the Administration to launch universal retirement protection to safeguard the rights of elderly persons and carers.</p>	
004119 - 004355	The Salvation Army Carer Association Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(03)]</p> <p>(a) the Administration was urged to provide carers with more training and access to useful information on services for the elderly; shorten the waiting time for subsidized CCS; and encourage employers to offer assistance to staff who had to take care of elderly at home; and</p> <p>(b) supporting a monthly allowance of \$2,000, non-means-tested, for carers who spent more than 28 hours a week on taking care of elderly persons; and a monthly allowance of \$5,800 for moderately and severely impaired elderly persons, who were non-Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") recipients, to purchase elderly care services and products.</p>	
004356 – 004808	Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Lok Kwan District Support Centre Chairman	Urging the Administration to strengthen community care and support services; as well as cultural and recreational facilities for persons with disabilities in Tung Chung.	
004809 – 005116	Direction Association for the Handicapped Chairman	Views that the Administration should honour its commitment to enhancing the capacities of carers of persons with disabilities as stated in the 2007 Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan and offer them an allowance to recognize their contribution. The Administration was also urged to improve respite services and formulate LTC policies for persons with disabilities for the next 10 years.	
005117 - 005547	Grace Parent Association Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1178/12-13(03)]</p>	

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		Expressing concern about the ageing of mentally handicapped persons and urging the Administration to formulate a comprehensive policy on their LTC needs and improve the related support services, which included, among others, the provision of the allowance for mentally handicapped persons.	
005548 - 005906	Association of Women with Disabilities Hong Kong Chairman	Expressing concern about the welfare of female persons with disabilities and their carers, and urging the Administration to – (a) provide a barrier-free environment to facilitate the re-integration of persons with disabilities into the community; (b) enhance the provision of sign language services; and (c) extend the pilot scheme on carer allowance under the Community Care Fund ("CCF") to carers of persons with disabilities.	
005907 - 010228	Harmonic Recreation Society Chairman	Views that operators of private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme ("EBPS") were not enthusiastic about offering respite services due to the lack of incentives (the service fee too low), and the utilization rate of the respite services in private RCHEs was low.	
010229 - 010626	Elderly Rights League (HK) Chairman	Presentation of views as follows – (a) day respite services should be offered for elderly couples suffering chronic illness; (b) the meager amount of the Disability Allowance ("DA") was not adequate to support the living of the elderly; and (c) the Administration should increase the service places of day care centres/units for the elderly.	
010627 - 010924	長者社區服務關注組 Chairman	Expressing concern about the lack of manpower in private RCHEs and urging the Administration to offer more training for staff in the elderly care service sector; also urging the Administration to relax the assessment criteria for home-based care services for the elderly.	
010925 - 011059	安老服務關注組 Chairman	Expressing concern about the hardship and financial burden (medical, transport, etc) faced by singleton elderly persons and elderly couples; and the difficulties of poor elderly persons who were not eligible for applying for CSSA as they did not	

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		meet the residency requirement of living in Hong Kong continuously for more than seven years.	
011060 - 011409	Society for Community Organization Chairman	Concerns and views that – (a) the Administration should take into consideration the needs of elderly couples in its future planning for provision of residential care services ("RCS") and CCS for the elderly; (b) relaying elderly persons' worries about the Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("Pilot Scheme"), including the co-payment arrangement, range of services, and quality assurance; and (c) the deputation's suggestion that vouchers for CCS could be substituted by cash allowance for carers to alleviate their burden.	
011410 - 011711	麗閣邨媽媽互助會 Chairman	Expressing the views that – (a) the Administration should take note of the financial difficulties of carers of children; and (b) the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project should be reviewed having regard to the high turn-over rate of child carers; and child care services should be enhanced in terms of service quotas and service hours.	
011712 - 012032	長沙灣託兒關注組 Chairman	Expressing concern that the pilot scheme on carers' allowance for the elderly should be extended to carers of children.	
012033 - 012204	麗閣邨婦女權益關注組 Chairman	Views that the scope of carers' allowance be broadened to cover full-time carers of elderly persons, persons with disabilities and children.	
012205 - 012527	Sham Shui Po Carer Concern Group Chairman	Urging the Administration to increase the quotas of child care services and encourage schools to extend students' study hours at schools so as to release the women workforce.	
012528 - 012837	Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centre Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(04)] (a) the pilot scheme of carer allowance for the elderly under CCF should be extended to carers of persons with disabilities; (b) making reference to the statutory minimum wage, the amount of the carer allowance should be set at \$3,430; and	

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		(c) an allowance for carers of children should be provided, the amount of which should be set at \$1,135.	
012838 - 013153	The Lion Rock Institute Chairman	Views that the Administration should enhance its support and services for carers as follows – (a) to invite more social enterprises to provide elderly care services; (b) to help elderly persons and persons with disabilities with genuine financial needs; and (c) to allow users to choose service providers and open up the relevant service market.	
013154 - 013500	Hong Kong Women Workers' Association Chairman	Presentation of views as follows – (a) quotas of child care services should be increased; (b) housewives had given up their jobs and personal development, and should be remunerated for their contributions in looking after the families; and (c) the carer allowance should not be restricted to carers of the elderly but for all carers.	
013501 - 014923	Chairman Administration	Summing up by the Chairman of deputations' views on the carer allowance; respite service; difficulties encountered by elderly couples; and poor elderly persons who were not eligible for applying for CSSA. Response of the Administration in respect of elderly services as follows – (a) to facilitate elderly persons ageing in place, CCS should be strengthened; and the difficulties of elderly couples would be addressed; (b) in the past few years, service places for CCS had been increased, for example, an additional 2 000 places for the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services ("EHCCS"); (c) new initiatives had been rolled out, such as the Pilot Scheme to be launched in September 2013; (d) the Pilot Scheme was designed with a co-payment arrangement whereby the less the user could afford, the more the Government	

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		<p>paid. For the group of elderly persons with the least financial means, the co-payment amount under the Scheme would be \$500 per month and CSSA recipients would receive a reimbursement of around \$150 - \$200;</p> <p>(e) the Administration would explore the feasibility of incorporating deputations' views on the pilot scheme of elderly carer allowance under CCF;</p> <p>(f) starting from 2012, respite services had been extended to private RCHEs participating in EBPS, and some 200 elderly persons had used the respite service in the participating private RCHEs from July to December 2012; and</p> <p>(g) the Administration would follow up and provide appropriate assistance to the elderly person who did not meet the seven year residence requirement for CSSA.</p> <p>Response of the Administration in respect of support for carers of persons with disabilities as follows –</p> <p>(a) residential respite service for children with disabilities would be provided continuously and the number of service quotas would be increased;</p> <p>(b) support for carers of persons with disabilities had been offered in the form of "training and services" (e.g. home-based care services) and "financial assistance" (e.g. CSSA, DA and special care subsidies under CCF);</p> <p>(c) the Administration was open-minded about the provision of cash allowance for carers of persons with disabilities. It would keep track of the progress of the pilot scheme of carer allowance for the elderly under the purview of the CCF Task Force of the Commission on Poverty ("CoP");</p> <p>(d) additional funding had been allocated to strengthen the manpower of physiotherapists and caring staff at residential care homes for persons with disabilities, and a recurrent funding of \$67.9 million had been earmarked in the 2013-2014 Budget to increase the manpower of residential care homes and day training centres to meet the needs of ageing persons with disabilities; and</p>	

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		(e) a working group had been formed under the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee to work out the short-, medium- and long- term measures relating to ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities.	
014924 - 015141	Mr TAM Yiu-chung Chairman	Views of Mr TAM Yiu-chung that – (a) the Government should provide an allowance of \$1,000 to a household with elderly person(s) and person(s) with disabilities to alleviate their financial burden; (b) support services for carers of elderly persons and persons with disabilities should be enhanced; and (c) in view of the acute manpower shortage in RCHEs, the Administration should consider importing labour from other countries if the manpower problem could not be solved by local supply.	
015142 - 015906	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Administration Chairman	Enquiries of Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che on – (a) whether the Administration had provided subsidies for private RCHEs in offering residential respite service; (b) whether EHCCS were required to be used as a "bundle" package such that elderly persons were not allowed to select particular service items; (c) the timetable for the regularization of the three-year Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities; and (d) the Administration's plan to introduce an allowance for carers of persons with disabilities. Response of the Administration that – (a) residential respite places, including casual vacancies, in all subvented nursing homes and care-and-attention homes, contract homes, as well as private RCHEs participating in EBPS were subsidized places; (b) NGOs were not required to provide EHCCS as a "bundle" package. The Administration would follow up the case with the NGO concerned;	

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		<p>(c) the Home Care Services for Persons with Severe Disabilities would be extended to persons with severe disabilities, irrespective of whether they were on the waiting list for RCS, in all the districts in the first quarter of 2014; and</p> <p>(d) the Administration was open to ideas and views on the scale and arrangement of the proposed carer allowance for the elderly, with a view to developing a practicable pilot scheme, and would look into the feasibility of extending it to carers of persons with disabilities having regard to the experience of the pilot scheme on elderly carer allowance.</p> <p>At the request of the Chairman, the Administration would provide members with the utilisation rates of residential respite places offered by subvented RCHEs, and those by private RCHEs participating in EBPS.</p>	Admin
015907 - 020400	Mr POON Siu-ping Administration Chairman	<p>Enquiries of Mr POON Siu-ping about –</p> <p>(a) whether the Administration had any plans to extend the service hours of day care centres/units for the elderly; and</p> <p>(b) details of the pilot scheme on carer allowance for the elderly under CCF.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that –</p> <p>(a) funding had been earmarked in the 2013-2014 Budget for extending service hours of the new day care centres/units for the elderly; and</p> <p>(b) CCF, the Elderly Commission and the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") were studying the feasibility of introducing the pilot scheme. No specific details nor timetable had been set for the time being.</p> <p>Enquiry by the Chairman on the provision of community care services for persons with disabilities in Tung Chung.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration about the effort being made in identifying suitable premises for service centres in Tung Chung and its continuous efforts to liaise with other government departments and the NGOs concerned to address the service needs of persons with disabilities in Tung Chung.</p>	
021219 - 021320	Chairman	Session Two opening remarks	

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021321 - 021625	Hong Kong Evangelical Church Social Service Centre Chairman	Views that the Administration should extend the pilot scheme on carer allowance to full-time carers of children; increase the quota of child care services and offer more training to child carers; and provide more facilities in the community for the convenience of low-income families.	
021626 - 022021	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation Centre on Research and Advocacy Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(05)]</p> <p>(a) the carer allowance should be provided for carers of elderly, persons with disabilities and the chronically ill;</p> <p>(b) the allowance should comprise a transport subsidy to ease the carers' burden in travel expenses;</p> <p>(c) measures should be taken to address the psychological wellness of carers and provide them with more opportunities for employment or self-development activities; and</p> <p>(d) seed money should be provided to self-help organizations for organizing training programmes for carers of persons with disabilities.</p>	
022022 - 022220	Association for the Rights of the Elderly Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(06)]</p> <p>In support of the launch of a carer allowance for the elderly with the following suggestions –</p> <p>(a) carer allowance should be an important measure to facilitate elderly to age in place, but not a poverty alleviation measure;</p> <p>(b) the granting of carer allowance should not preempt the continuous provision of CCS and RCS for the elderly; and</p> <p>(c) a one-off allowance should be provided annually to subsidize the purchase of equipment for the elderly in need.</p>	
022221 - 022525	Rehabilitation Alliance Hong Kong Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1178/12-13(04)]</p> <p>The Administration was urged to –</p> <p>(a) strengthen the CCS for persons with disabilities including services offered by the 16 DSC, and lower the charge for the home-based care services for persons with</p>	

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		<p>severe disabilities;</p> <p>(b) develop long-term planning for Day Activity Centre, sheltered workshops and RCS for persons with disabilities; and</p> <p>(c) strengthen its support and services to carers of persons with disabilities, including the provision of an allowance for carers.</p>	
022526 - 022850	天水圍照顧者關注會 Chairman	Views that the Administration should expeditiously introduce the carer allowance and extend the allowance for the benefit of housewives to recognize their contributions.	
022851 - 023229	Tin Shui Wai Community Development Network Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(11)]</p> <p>Expressing concerns about the stress and financial burden of carers, mostly housewives; urging the Administration to enhance the respite services to relieve carers' stress; and in support of extending the allowance for carers of elderly to carers of persons with disabilities and children.</p>	
023230 - 023447	將軍澳長者民生關注會 Chairman	<p>Expressing views on carers' allowance as follows –</p> <p>(a) the deputation was against the imposition of means test for the carer allowance for the elderly given that it should be a reward for the contribution of carers;</p> <p>(b) the allowance should also be offered to carers of persons with disabilities; and</p> <p>(c) the allowance should be positioned as a long-term welfare measure.</p>	
023448 - 023656	全港長者及護老者權益 聯席 Chairman	<p>Views that –</p> <p>(a) the carer allowance for the elderly should be a long-term welfare measure and not be placed under the purview of CCF which was a time-limited fund;</p> <p>(b) carer allowance should not be restricted to elderly persons but extended to carers of persons with disabilities. Reference should be drawn from experiences of other countries which set different levels of allowance according to the degree of disabilities of persons with disabilities; and</p> <p>(c) carer allowance should be implemented in all</p>	

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		districts of Hong Kong; and should not be means-tested.	
023657 - 024134	Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club Chairman	Views on the support and services to carers – (a) the deputation supported a "care service allowance", which was set at the same amount of the fees for residential care home, for households with elderly persons on the Central Waiting List for RCS, with a view to allowing the carers to deploy the money flexibly and alleviating the acute shortage of subvented RCHE places; and (b) CCF and the Elderly Commission should consult the public on the pilot scheme on carer allowance for the elderly.	
024135 - 024354	Care for the Elderly Association Limited Chairman	Views of the deputation that frail elderly persons should be provided with RCS so as to alleviate the pressure of their family members. The Administration was urged to – (a) adjust the existing proportion of nursing homes to care and attention homes of 6:4 to further increase the nursing home places; and (b) rationalize the service matching mechanism of the Standardized Care Needs Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services ("SCNAMES") so that elderly persons who were assessed for the provision of RCS should be placed at the queue for RCS only to expedite service matching.	
024355 - 024707	Hong Kong S.K.H. Lady MacLehose Centre Chairman	Urging the Administration to increase the manpower at the District Elderly Community Centres and Neighbourhood Elderly Centres with a view to alleviating the heavy workload of front-line staff providing services for the elderly and their carers.	
024708 - 024955	Labour Party Chairman	Expressing the views that the Administration should recognize the contribution of carers by – (a) following overseas practice of offering a monthly allowance to carers; (b) enhancing the provision of respite services to relieve the stress of the carers; and (c) identifying new sites for the construction of RCHEs to meet the acute demand for care homes, especially for frail elderly persons who had a genuine need for institutionalization.	

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024956 - 025322	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service Chairman	The Administration was urged to – (a) enhance its support and services to demented elderly persons and their carers, such as stress management, provision of a guidebook with relevant information on services and support, improving the home environment, and creating an age-friendly community; and (b) enhance the transparency of the latest situation of waitlisting for RCS and CCS and provide more information regarding the range of services available in the community.	
025323 - 025613	The Salvation Army Yau Tsim Integrated Service for Senior Citizens Chairman	The deputation was – (a) in support of a carer allowance to recognize carers' contributions, but the scheme should be a long-term measure instead of under the purview of CoP; and (b) supported the provision of a special one-off grant for households with frail elderly persons to subsidize their expenses in purchasing elderly care services or equipment.	
025614 - 025913	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society Chairman	Presentation of views that – (a) the home-based care services and day care centre services should be integrated to offer more tailor-made services to suit the needs of elderly persons; and (b) a case management approach should be promoted to coordinate the existing elderly care services under various schemes managed by different departments/service units.	
025914 - 030145	關注照顧者權益聯盟 Chairman	Urging the Administration to provide an allowance for carers of children, improve the child care services and adopt a family-friendly labour policy with a view to recognizing their contribution and alleviating the financial difficulties of full-time housewives.	
030146 - 030527	天水圍照顧者權益會 Chairman	Presentation of views that – (a) given that the Government had the responsibility to protect the well-being of the elderly and the disadvantaged, the Administration should recognize the contribution of carers, for example, carers should be entitled to benefits such as transport	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>subsidy and retirement protection; and</p> <p>(b) the pilot scheme on carer allowance for the elderly should not be under the purview of CoP, but a long-term welfare measure.</p>	
030528 - 030915	Civic Party Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(12)]</p> <p>(a) the \$2 concessionary fare offered by public transport should be extended to carers to subsidize their travel expenses in accompanying elderly persons and persons with disabilities for medical consultation;</p> <p>(b) in support of a carer allowance to recognize carers' contributions;</p> <p>(c) training for carers should be strengthened to equip them with the latest skills in taking care of elderly persons and persons with disabilities; and</p> <p>(d) inputs from carers should be invited in respect of the modification of home environment of elderly persons and persons with disabilities.</p>	
030916 - 031320	長者政策監察聯席-聯席 之友 Chairman	Views that the Administration should introduce a carer allowance as a support measure for the policy of encouraging elderly persons to age in place, and to recognize the contribution of full-time carers.	
031321 - 031712	耆康會(柴灣中心) Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1242/12-13(07)]</p> <p>In support of the pilot scheme of carer allowance for the elderly under CCF with specific suggestions –</p> <p>(a) the scheme should be introduced in the 10 districts not selected for the implementation of the Pilot Scheme with a view to avoiding double benefits;</p> <p>(b) the allowance should only be granted to carers of elderly persons with moderate or severe levels of impairment under SCNAMES;</p> <p>(c) the allowance should only be provided for family members devoted to taking care of eligible elderly persons, but not for hiring domestic helpers; and</p> <p>(d) a monitoring mechanism should be in place to check the proper use of the allowance.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
031713 - 032016	明愛長者聯會 Chairman	In support of the launch of a carer allowance and public consultation should be conducted to gauge the views of different stakeholders; and urging the Administration to formulate a comprehensive elderly care policy to meet the changing needs of the ageing population.	
032017 - 032340	Elderly Council of Hong Kong Christian Service Chairman	Expressing views and concerns as follows – (a) the Administration should enhance its support for elderly couples as most carers of elderly persons were their spouses in old age; (b) the Rehab bus services should be strengthened to facilitate elderly persons to seek medical consultations and participate in other rehabilitation activities; and (c) in support of the carer allowance for the elderly which had been a long-pursued goal and an important measure to support the policy of encouraging elderly persons to age in place.	
032341 - 032637	Hong Kong Federation of Handicapped Youth Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1178/12-13(05)] Suggestions in regard to support for carers of persons with disabilities as follows – (a) more publicity be done to make known the services offered by the 16 DSCs and the service boundary of DSCs should be adjusted in accordance to the service demand of individual districts; (b) care services for children with disabilities should be strengthened; and (c) more support services should be offered to address the emergency needs of carers of children with disabilities.	
032638 - 032955	The Democratic Party Chairman	Presentation of views – (a) in support of the carer allowance for the elderly which should also be extended to carers of persons with disabilities, the chronically ill and children; and (b) the Administration should continue its efforts in providing RCHEs, and introduce family-friendly measures such as flexible working hours, and vacation leave for people to take care of families.	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
032956 - 033307	Carer Alliance for the People with Dementia Chairman	<p>Presentation of views –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) in support of home-based care services for demented elderly persons to alleviate the acute demand for RCHE places and the pressure of family members; (b) the pilot scheme on carer allowance for the elderly should be extended to carers of all kinds including demented persons regardless of their age; and (c) more support services should be provided for demented patients aged below 60. 	
033308 - 033906	Chairman Administration	<p>Response of the Administration to deputations' views as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Administration would continue its efforts in rolling out new community care initiatives to facilitate elderly persons to age in place and at the same time increasing RCHE places through the provision of new care homes and EBPS; (b) services for demented elderly persons were currently offered in an integrated service mode of RCS and CCS, and more resources would be allocated to cater for their special needs; and (c) no detailed implementation plan had been worked out for the pilot scheme of carer allowance for the elderly. Deputations' views would be conveyed to the CCF Task Force for its consideration. 	
033907 - 034307	Dr Helena WONG Administration Chairman	<p>Views of Dr Helena WONG that the Administration should improve its child care and elderly support services and offer more training for carers. The pilot scheme on carer allowance under CCF should be launched expeditiously, and be extended to carers of persons with disabilities, the chronically ill, and children.</p> <p>Dr WONG expressing her intention to move a motion urging the Administration to recognize the contribution of carers but not able to do so as the appointed ending time had already passed.</p> <p>Response of the Administration that it was open to suggestions on the scale and arrangement of the pilot scheme; and Dr WONG's views on child care services would be referred to SWD for follow-up.</p>	

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034308 - 034739	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Administration Chairman	<p>Queries by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung about the rationale for the launch of carer allowance for the elderly in the following manner, i.e. under the purview of CoP, funded by CCF, and implemented by SWD; and his enquiry about the amount of funds to be allocated under CCF for the pilot scheme.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that CoP was collaborating with CCF and SWD for the preparation of the scheme and; at this stage, there was no estimation about the funding amount.</p>	
034740 - 035317	Deputy Chairman Administration Chairman	<p>Enquiries of the Deputy Chairman about –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the way forward for the policy of encouraging elderly persons aging in place and any areas for improvement; (b) whether the Administration would consider a deputation's suggestion of offering an allowance, same as the amount of residential care home fees, for households with elderly persons on the Central Waiting List for RCS; and (c) ways to solve the manpower shortage faced by District Elderly Community Centres and Neighbourhood Elderly Centres. <p>Response of the Administration that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) given that the existing CCS were mostly subsidized, the Administration would invite more service operators to join hands in offering more diversified services; (b) the Administration aimed to deploy the limited public resources to assist the most needy elderly; and (c) the manpower shortage for front-line service teams of elderly centres would be examined. <p>Summing up by the Chairman of members' and deputations' views on the pilot scheme of carers allowance for the elderly as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the pilot scheme should be extended to carers of persons with disabilities and children; (b) the granting of carer allowance should not preempt the continuous provision of CCS for elderly persons; 	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>(c) a timetable should be worked out for the launch of the scheme; and</p> <p>(d) public consultation should be conducted to gauge the views of different stakeholders.</p>	
<i>Agenda item II – Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting</i>			
035318 - 035447	Chairman Administration	Members agreed that "Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly" would be discussed at the next meeting.	
<i>Agenda item III – Any other business</i>			
035448 - 035519	Administration Chairman	Closing remarks	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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