

立法會
Legislative Council

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seen by the Administration)

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Panel on Welfare Services and Panel on Health Services

Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy

**Minutes of the eighth meeting
held on Tuesday, 2 July 2013, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room 2B of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members Present : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)
Hon TANG Ka-piu (Deputy Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
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 : 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

Mr LAM Ka-tai
Assistant Director (Rehabilitation and Medical Social
Services)
Social Welfare Department

Miss Cecilla LI
Assistant Director (Elderly)
Social Welfare Department

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. Planning for provision of residential care, home care and community care services and quality of such services

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)673/12-13(01) to (02), CB(2)548/12-13(01) to (02), CB(2)825/12-13(01) to (02) and CB(2)992/12-13(01) to (02)]

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

2. The Joint Subcommittee called on the Administration to –

Admin

- (a) provide preliminary thinking on the projection of the long-term care ("LTC") needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities ("PWDs") in the next 10 years;
- (b) provide relevant data collected under the Standardized Care Needs Assessment for the Elderly Services and the central referral system for rehabilitation services with a view to understanding the LTC needs of elderly and PWDs respectively, and allow academics and the welfare sector to have access to the data;

Action

- (c) request the Community Care Fund Task Force under the Commission on Poverty to extend the pilot scheme on an allowance for carers of elderly to carers of PWDs; and
- (d) request the working group formed under the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee to look into issues relating to the ageing of PWDs and work out measures to enhance the vocational rehabilitation and community care services for them.

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

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

- 3. The Chairman advised and members agreed that the agenda item for the next meeting scheduled for October 2013 would be "Ageing problem of persons with intellectual disabilities". Deputations would be invited to express their views at the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: As instructed by the Chairman, the agenda item for the next meeting scheduled for 25 October 2013 was changed to "Respite service for the elderly and persons with disabilities".)

III. Any other business

- 4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:37 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
16 October 2013

**Proceedings of the eighth meeting of the
Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy
on Tuesday, 2 July 2013, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room 2B of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda item I – Planning for provision of residential care, home care and community care services and quality of such services</i>			
000354 - 000930	Chairman Administration	<p>Opening remarks</p> <p>Briefing by the Administration on its continuous commitments in the provision of residential care services ("RCS") and community care services ("CCS") for the elderly. Members' views expressed in previous meetings of the Joint Subcommittee would be duly considered for enhancement of services in the future.</p>	
000931 - 002346	Deputy Chairman Administration Chairman	<p>Enquiries and views of Deputy Chairman that –</p> <p>(a) the Administration should project the long-term care ("LTC") needs of elders, in terms of manpower planning and funding allocation, in the next 10 years with reference to the number of elders assessed as moderately impaired under the Standardized Care Needs Assessment for Elderly Services ("SCNAMES"); and</p> <p>(b) if the Administration had any plans on formulating an insurance plan to help alleviate the heavy financial burden on elderly care services in view of the growing ageing population.</p> <p>Response of the Administration that –</p> <p>(a) the number of elderly persons in need of subsidized LTC services in the future hinged on various factors such as advancement in medical services, awareness of the public on healthcare, and preference for CCS over RCS for the elderly; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration had put in place measures to increase the manpower supply of nurses, paramedical staff and front-line care workers; and had been kept in view the needs for</p>	

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		<p>commitments in long-term plans on the financial support for elderly care services in the future.</p> <p>Views of the Chairman that the Administration should have long-term planning, in terms of manpower and training, and funding for RCS and CCS, with scientific data and analyses from the information collected under SCNAMES on the projection of LTC needs of the elderly population in the next 10 years.</p> <p>At the Chairman's request, the Administration would provide the Joint Subcommittee, by the end of this year, with preliminary thinking on how to better the long-term care services planning.</p>	Admin
002347 - 004247	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Administration Chairman	<p>Views and enquiries of Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che on the provision of elderly care services that -</p> <p>(a) the existing planning for elderly services focused more on the supply aspect rather than the demand aspect arising from the growing elderly population;</p> <p>(b) the Administration should provide data on the LTC needs of the elderly including the some 200 000 assessments completed under SCNAMES and invite the views of the welfare sector and the public on the planning for provision of elderly services; and</p> <p>(c) whether the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services ("EHCCS") were offered in a "bundle" package and elders were not allowed to use, for example, escort services for medical appointments only.</p> <p>Response of the Administration that –</p> <p>(a) the data of some 200 000 elderly cumulatively in the past years were collected for the purpose of service matching rather than an analysis of the LTC needs of individual elderly;</p> <p>(b) the Administration would consider commissioning a consultancy study on enhancing the infrastructure of the LTC services; and</p> <p>(c) in the service agreements with</p>	

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		<p>non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") offering EHCCS, there were no requirement for NGOs concerned to provide services in a "bundle" package. The Administration would follow up with members on the case relating to the service mode of EHCCS.</p> <p>Views of the Chairman that –</p> <p>(a) the Administration should undertake studies to analyze the change of elderly people's LTC needs from the assessment completed under SCNAMES over the past decade and, if not, the data should be made available for academics to conduct such studies; and</p> <p>(b) in the light of the international trend that most elderly people wished to live independently in a familiar community rather than living in institutions, the Administration should strengthen the provision of home care and community care services to facilitate the elderly to age in place.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that the Government had all along been promoting "ageing in place" as the core of its elderly care services. It had taken forward the recommendations of the Elderly Commission to enhance CCS for the elderly and rolled out new initiatives such as the pilot scheme on CCS voucher to provide more service options.</p>	
004248 - 005042	Dr Helena WONG Administration Chairman	<p>Views of Dr Helena WONG that –</p> <p>(a) the Administration should undertake studies on the analysis of the LTC needs of elderly people from the assessments under SCNAMES and commission a consultancy study on enhancing the infrastructure of the LTC system in parallel; and</p> <p>(b) the Democratic Party was in support of the policy objective of "ageing in place" and a carer's allowance to compensate the time and commitments devoted by carers to look after elderly members at home.</p> <p>Response of the Administration that –</p> <p>(a) as there would be technical issues involved in extracting relevant information from the aggregated data collected under SCNAMES, the Administration needed some time to study</p>	

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		<p>what information could be provided; and</p> <p>(b) the Community Care Fund Task Force under the Commission on Poverty was exploring the feasibility of a pilot scheme under the Community Care Fund ("CCF") to provide an allowance for carers of the elderly.</p> <p>Advice of the Chairman that the Administration could exchange views with academics on what specific categories of data to be extracted from SCNAMES and his enquiry about the timetable for the launch of the allowance for carers of the elderly.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that the CCF Task Force and the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") had been working closely on the pilot scheme. The Administration would revert it to the Joint Subcommittee when more information was available.</p>	
005043 - 011847	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Administration Chairman	<p>Views of Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung that the Administration should expeditiously increase the number of subsidized residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHE") places, and his suggestion that the Administration, in its plan on the construction of public housing estates, should reserve lower floors of the housing estates for developing RCHEs.</p> <p>Response of the Administration that –</p> <p>(a) it had earmarked sites in new development (including public housing development in Shum Shui Po, Shatin and Tung Chung) or re-development projects for the construction of seven new contract homes in the coming three years;</p> <p>(b) the inclusion of RCHE places in public housing estates would be subject to the overall planning and development of individual districts; and</p> <p>(c) SWD had been closely liaising with the Housing Department and the Planning Department for the development plan of welfare facilities in new development projects; for elderly care service facilities, a foremost criterion should be accessibility.</p>	

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		<p>Views of the Chairman that the Administration should –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) make a pledge to shorten the waiting time for subsidized RCHE places to within a specific period of time, for example, six months; (b) identify the areas for improvement in respect of the monitoring of service quality of RCHEs especially the private ones; and (c) consider the overseas practice to invite elderly volunteers to visit RCHEs with a view to enhancing the service quality from a user's point of view. <p>Reply of the Administration on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) its commitment to shorten the waiting time for RCS and its plan to review the option selection mode under SCNAMES with a view to streamlining the matching of RCS and CCS for the elderly; (b) the monitoring measures taken by the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly, such as unannounced visits to RCHEs and uploading the records of those RCHEs successfully prosecuted onto SWD webpage for a period of two years; and (c) the work of the District Service Quality Group for Residential Care Homes for the Elderly to enhance the service quality of private care homes through visits paid by district professionals and local leaders. 	
011848 - 011948	Mr TAM Yiu-chung Administration Chairman	<p>Concerns of Mr TAM Yiu-chung about the realization of the Government's commitment in the provision of elderly care services, and his request that new initiatives such as carers' allowance should be implemented expeditiously.</p> <p>Summing up by the Chairman of the key concerns raised by members on the provision of RCS and CCS for the elderly.</p>	
011949 - 012848	Administration Chairman	Briefing by the Administration on the provision of RCS for persons with disabilities ("PWDs"), with a view to providing additional 2 700 places in subvented residential care homes for persons with disabilities ("RCHDs") from 2013-2014 to	

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		2017-2018, as well as the enhancement of community care and support services for PWDs.	
012849 - 013546	Deputy Chairman Chairman Administration	<p>Views and enquiries of Deputy Chairman about –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) reasons for an increase of 30-40% in the number of PWDs waiting for long stay care home; (b) the waiting time for places at Day Activity Centres ("DACs") and sheltered workshops ("SWs"); and (c) whether the Administration had conducted review on the effectiveness of DAC and SW in providing job training for PWDs; and considered allocating more resources for the enhancement of services. <p>Response of the Administration that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) in recent years additional places were mostly provided for hostels for severely and moderately mentally handicapped persons, and comparatively the waiting time for places in long stay care homes was longer; (b) the Administration would work on the projection of the LTC needs of PWDs and the supply of RCHD places, which hinged on factors including the ageing of PWDs and the change in their body functioning; (c) the average waiting time for DACs, SWs and supported employment were 57.6 months (1 257 persons on the waiting list as at the end of March 2013), 12.6 months (2 515 persons) and 2.1 months (79 persons) respectively; (d) the Administration would keep in view the demand for vocational rehabilitation services and increase the service quotas of DACs and SWs accordingly; and (e) the Vocational Training Council had been offering programmes in helping PWDs acquire the skills for seeking employment in the open market. 	
013547 - 014248	Deputy Chairman Chairman	Further enquiries by Deputy Chairman about the allocation of service quotas of DACs and SWs in	

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	Administration Chairman	<p>different districts, especially for those districts with high service demand such as North and Tuen Mun districts.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that –</p> <p>(a) 30 additional DAC places (not attached to vocational training – residential service) would be offered in North district in 2013-2014; and 50 additional DAC places would be offered in Tin Shui Wai in 2013-2014;</p> <p>(b) a total of 9 300 SW and integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre ("IVRSC") places were offered currently, 80% of which were places not attached to residential service. The Administration would closely monitor the needs in Tuen Mun and North districts and provide more places to meet the service demand ; and</p> <p>(c) an IVRSC would be set up in Yuen Long in the 2015-2016 financial year, providing 160 additional places, 80% of which would be for SWs.</p>	
014249 - 014747	Chairman Administration Chairman	<p>Enquiries of the Chairman on whether residential respite services for children with disabilities would be continued and his suggestion on the rationalization of the admission procedures for children seeking urgent respite services.</p> <p>Replies of the Administration that recurrent funding would be provided for the nine NGOs for the continuous provision of residential respite services for children with disabilities; and that respite places would also be reserved in newly constructed RCHDs for this purpose. The suggestion on admission procedures would also be relayed to the NGOs.</p>	
014748 - 015817	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Administration Chairman	<p>Concerns expressed by Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che that –</p> <p>(a) the services by the District Support Centres for Persons with Disabilities ("DSCs") were fragmented, and should be reintegrated and enhanced; and</p> <p>(b) vocational rehabilitation services for PWDs should also be reviewed given that many</p>	

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		<p>PWDs were capable of taking up more complicated jobs and more employers were willing to offer job opportunities to PWDs for building an inclusive society.</p> <p>Response of the Administration that it would review the operation of DSC and strive to provide PWDs with more employment opportunities, with highlights as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the financial incentive to employers for offering job trial opportunities to PWDs had been increased from \$3,000 to \$4,000 per month (for a maximum of six months); (b) subsidies would be offered to employers of PWDs for procuring assistive devices and carrying out workplace modification works, thereby enabling PWDs to work more efficiently; and a funding of \$100 million had been injected into the "Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise" Project; (c) the Special Needs Groups Task Force under the Commission on Poverty would provide input on measures to facilitate employment of PWDs; and (d) a working group was set up under the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee ("RAC") to deal with issues relating to the ageing of mentally handicapped persons, and the Administration was open-minded on the suggestion of the re-integration of the existing services for enhanced vocational training for PWDs. 	
015818 - 020305	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Chairman	Views of Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung that the Administration should review the operation mode in regard to the vocational rehabilitation services offered by DACs and SWs.	
020306 - 020722	Chairman	<p>Views of the Chairman that the fundamental problem was the lack of good planning to address the huge demand of RCS and CCS for the elderly and PWDs. He called on the Administration to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide preliminary thinking on the projection of the LTC needs of the elderly and PWDs in the next 10 years; 	Admin

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		<p>(b) provide relevant data collected under SCNAMES and the central referral system for rehabilitation services with a view to understanding the LTC needs of elderly and PWDs respectively, and allow academics and the welfare sector to have access to the data;</p> <p>(c) request the CCF Task Force to extend the pilot scheme on an allowance for carers of the elderly to carers of PWDs; and</p> <p>(d) request the working group formed under RAC to look into issues relating to the ageing of PWDs and work out measures to enhance the vocational rehabilitation and community care services for them.</p>	
<i>Agenda item II – Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting</i>			
020723 - 020745	Chairman	Date and discussion item for the next meeting	
<i>Agenda item III – Any other business</i>			
020746 - 020748	Chairman	Closing remarks	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
 16 October 2013