

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)372/13-14

(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 ninth meeting**  
**held on Friday, 25 October 2013, at 10:45 am**  
**in Conference Room 1 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  
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN  
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon WONG Yuk-man  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

**Members Absent** : Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

**Public Officers Attending** : Item II

Mrs Elina CHAN  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare  
(Welfare)<sup>3</sup>  
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Mr Stephen SUI  
Commissioner for Rehabilitation  
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Mr FONG Kai-leung  
Assistant Director (Rehabilitation and Medical Social  
Services)  
Social Welfare Department

Ms Lilian CHEUNG  
Chief Social Work Officer (Elderly)1  
Social Welfare Department

Mr WONG Yuk-tong  
Chief Social Work Officer (Elderly)2  
Social Welfare Department

**Attendance by  
invitation**

Item II

Labour Party

Mr YIP Wing  
Representative

SME Global Alliance Elderly Services Limited

Ms CHAN Fong-tai  
Consultant

Hong Kong Private Nursing Home Owners Association

Mr Thomas KWONG  
Vice Chairman

肌肉萎縮症倡議小組

Ms POON Pui-kam  
Treasury

多發性硬化症小組

Ms CHAN Fung-man  
Committee

H.K. Neuro-Muscular Disease Association  
Limited

---

Miss SAE SOW Jintana

The Forthright Caucus

Ms HO Bo-ching  
Representative

香港安老服務協會政策研究組

Mr LI Wai

The Association of Parents of the Severely  
Mentally Handicapped

---

Mr LEE Chi-yung  
Chairman

Production Team of Documentary "Independent  
Living of Disable Community"

---

Mr Willy KWONG  
Director

Visual Impairment Television - Online  
Television for Disables

---

Mr Willy LAW  
Host

Hong Kong Red Cross Princess Alexandra  
School

---

Mrs CHOW Siu-wah  
School Social Worker

Mr HOU Cheung-shing

New People's Party

Mr KAM Man-fung  
Chair, Youth Committee

T.W.G.Hs Lok Kwan District Support Centre

Ms KWAN Chui-ping  
Supervisor

The Parents' Association of Pre-school  
Handicapped Children

Ms Gigi CHEUNG  
Representative

Civic Party

Mr Zico MAN Ho-keung  
District Developer

1st Step Association

Mr YIP Kin-keung  
Organizer

Mr TSANG Kai

Department of Social Work and Social  
Administration, HKU

Ms Phyllis WONG King-shui  
Fieldwork Supervisor

Ms HUI Ching-yee

Hong Kong Private Hostel and Rehabilitation  
Association

Mr Joe LI  
Chairman

Concern Group for Services for Disabled Adults

Mr Richard LEE Pak-ying  
Consultant

Hong Kong Association for Parents of Persons  
with Physical Disabilities

---

Miss LING Ching-ha  
Recreation and Liaison

香港區私營院舍聯會

彭學海先生

**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

Miss Rachel YUNG  
Clerical Assistant (2) 4

Action

---

**I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman (if required)**

Members agreed that the re-election for chairman and deputy chairman for the 2013-2014 session was not required.

**II. Respite service for the elderly and persons with disabilities**

[LC Paper No. CB(2)107/13-14(01) to (03), CB(2)146/13-14(01), CB(2)149/13-14(01) to (03) and CB(2)167/13-14(01) to (05)]

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

3. The Joint Subcommittee requested the Administration to follow up on developing a computerized central platform for respite places for elderly persons and persons with disabilities, and revert to the Joint Subcommittee four months after the meeting about the detailed work plans and work progress.

Admin

Action

LegCo  
Secretariat

4. The Joint Subcommittee agreed to request the Education Bureau ("EDB") to increase residential respite places at special schools under its purview and utilize those casually vacant residential places at special schools to meet the demand for short-term and/or urgent residential respite service for children with disabilities.

*(Post-meeting note: A letter making the above request was sent to EDB on 31 October 2013.)*

**III. Continuation of work of the Joint Subcommittee**

[LC Paper No. CB(2)107/13-14(04)]

5. Members agreed to the proposed continuation of the Joint Subcommittee's work up to 31 July 2014. The Joint Subcommittee would seek the agreement of the Panel on Welfare Services and the Panel on Health Services to the proposal before submitting it to the House Committee for endorsement.

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

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

6. Members agreed to discuss "Care services for people with dementia" at the next meeting to be held in November 2013.

**V. Any other business**

7. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:13 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
26 November 2013

**Proceedings of the ninth meeting of the  
Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy  
on Friday, 25 October 2013, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action required</b>
<i>Agenda item I – Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman (if required)</i>			
000207 - 000254	Chairman Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Mr POON Siu-ping	Opening remarks  Members' consent that re-election of chairman and deputy chairman not required.	
<i>Agenda item II – Respite service for the elderly and persons with disabilities</i>			
000255 - 001127	Chairman Administration Chairman	Briefing by the Administration on respite service for the elderly persons and persons with disabilities ("PWDs") [LC Paper No. CB(2)107/13-14(01)]	
001128 - 001503	Labour Party Chairman	Presentation of views that the Administration should –  (a) accord high priority to cope with the acute shortage for respite service for elderly persons and PWDs;  (b) adopt a case management approach in assisting the elderly persons who were waiting for residential care services; and  (c) extend the proposed carer allowance for the elderly under the Community Care Fund to carers of PWDs.	
001504 - 001829	SME Global Alliance Elderly Services Limited Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)167/13-14(01)]  Urging the Administration to cope with the manpower shortage at private residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHes").	
001830 - 002141	Hong Kong Private Nursing Home Owners Association Chairman	Presentation of views that –  (a) the Administration should look into the lack of residential respite places for elderly persons in some districts and increase the places accordingly; and	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		(b) procedures regarding admission to RCHEs should be simplified.	
002142 - 002530	肌肉萎縮症倡議小組 Chairman	Views and suggestions that –  (a) the Administration should increase respite places for PWDs and enhance training for their carers; and  (b) given that many PWDs lacked self-help capabilities and relied on assistance of domestic helpers in daily life, the Administration should introduce measures to monitor service quality of agents for the employment of domestic helpers from overseas countries and to reduce the high turnover rate of imported domestic helpers.	
002531 - 002802	多發性硬化症小組 Chairman	Urging the Administration to provide persons with severe disabilities with special supplements under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") and strengthen the community care services for them.	
002803 - 003048	H.K. Neuro-Musular Disease Association Limited Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)167/13-14(02)]  Suggestions that the Administration should (a) implement the directions set out under the policy on rehabilitation of PWDs; (b) offer effective home-based care services; (c) offer residential care service for persons with severe disabilities who had no support from families or carers; and (d) special assistance should be provided for paralyzed patients including training on caring skills for their carers/domestic helpers.	
003049 - 003430	The Forthright Caucus Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)167/13-14(03)]  (a) respite places for PWDs of different levels should be increased, especially those persons with severe physical disabilities, to alleviate the pressure of their carers;  (b) apart from serving their own boarding students, special schools offering residential places should make the places accessible to students with disabilities with short-term and/or urgent residential needs; and  (c) non-governmental organizations ("NGOs")	



Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		offering residential respite places for children with disabilities below the age of 15 should be provided with recurrent funding for the provision of regular service.	
003431 - 003748	香港安老服務協會政策研究組 Chairman	Presentation of views on the extremely low utilization rate of the respite places offered by private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme ("EBPS"); and urging the Administration to provide more incentives for private RCHEs in this regard.	
003749 - 004039	The Association of Parents of the Severely Mentally Handicapped Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)146/13-14(01)]  Suggestions that the Administration should increase respite places for children with disabilities expeditiously to relieve the pressure of their carers; set up a computerized central platform offering one-stop information and referral services for respite places for PWDs; increase the funding for more residential places at special schools so that the students could stay at their own schools; and adopt the case management approach to follow up the needs of individual PWDs.	
004040 - 004404	Production Team of Documentary "Independent Living of Disable Community" Chairman	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)149/13-14(01)]  Views that respite services for PWDs should be enhanced according to the demand of individual districts; more flexibility should be provided in the period of respite service, and an enhanced database system should be developed for follow-up services for PWDs.	
004405 - 004816	Hong Kong Red Cross Princess Alexandra School Chairman	Urging the Administration to –  (a) open the residential places available at special schools especially during long holidays for the needs of children with disabilities in the community;  (b) adopt the case management approach in the provision of community care and support services for PWDs; and  (c) develop a central platform for useful information and referral of respite services for PWDs.	
004817 - 005106	Mr HOU Cheung-shing Chairman	Views on the difficulties in seeking residential respite places for children with disabilities, especially in some districts such as Kwai Ching.	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
005107 - 005420	New People's Party Chairman	<p>Presentation of views that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) given that 70% of a total of 360 000 PWDs in Hong Kong were taken care of by family members, more resources should be deployed to strengthen day care respite services with a view to alleviating the pressure of carers physically and mentally;</li> <li>(b) more resources should be allocated to districts with huge demand for respite places;</li> <li>(c) more training and support should be provided for families/carers of elderly persons and PWDs to strengthen their caring capacity and to encourage them to develop self-help organizations; and</li> <li>(d) in support of the proposal that carer allowance should be offered to carers of PWDs.</li> </ul>	
005421 - 005808	T.W.G.Hs Lok Kwan District Support Centre Chairman	<p>Presentation of views that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the number of respite places for PWDs in Hong Kong Island and the Islands was far from adequate to serve the demand of the two districts. It was not desirable for PWDs, who looked for such places, to be provided with respite places in other districts; and</li> <li>(b) in support of a central platform so that PWDs in need of respite service could have access to the latest information about the availability of places in different districts.</li> </ul>	
005809 - 010148	Visual Impairment Television - Online Television for Disables Chairman	<p>Expressing the views that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) there was an acute shortage of respite places for emergency needs of PWDs and chronic disease patients; and</li> <li>(b) of a total of 248 residential respite places for PWDs, only 65 were regular places, which were far from adequate to serve the needs of the community.</li> </ul>	
010149 - 010538	1 <sup>st</sup> Step Association Chairman	Urging the Administration to look into the acute shortage of respite places for PWDs and to offer more residential respite places to	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		accommodate PWDs with urgent needs for such service. The deputation was in support of setting up a central platform for respite places and adopting the case management approach in the community care services for PWDs.	
010539 - 010858	Mr TSANG Kai Chairman	Expressing the views that residential respite places for PWDs should be provided in response to the huge demand of individual districts. More flexibility should be allowed for the period of stay.	
010859 - 011231	The Parents' Association of Pre-school Handicapped Children Chairman	Expressing the strong view that the Administration should closely look into and follow up on why some NGOs were not willing to continue the residential respite services for children with disabilities aged below 15; and asking the Administration to provide information on the geographical distribution of the existing residential respite places for such children.	
011232 - 011507	Civic Party Chairman	<p>Presentation of views that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) day care respite services should be provided for both elderly persons and PWDs; and respite service for PWDs should be offered according to their categories of disabilities, such as intellectual disabilities, physical disabilities, or other special needs;</li> <li>(b) the service hours of day care respite services should be extended;</li> <li>(c) application procedures for respite service should be simplified; and</li> <li>(d) more incentives should be offered to encourage private RCHEs and residential care homes for persons with disabilities ("RCHDs") to participate in offering residential respite places.</li> </ul>	
011508 - 011938	Department of Social Work and Social Administration, The University of Hong Kong Chairman	<p>Presentation of views that – [LC Paper No. CB(2)167/13-14(04)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) support should be enhanced for carers of the elderly persons and PWDs who played an important role in public services and in a way greatly alleviated the financial burden of the Government;</li> </ul>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>(b) persons with severe disabilities receiving the Care and Attention Allowance under CSSA faced difficulties when their foreign domestic helpers took annual leave, and currently there was an acute shortage of residential respite places for completely paralyzed persons (just three places);</p> <p>(c) the Administration should strengthen its support for NGOs which offered respite places to ease the huge demand in the community; and</p> <p>(d) hostels dedicated to the provision of respite services should be built.</p>	
011939 - 012126	Ms HUI Ching-yee Chairman	Urging the Administration to set up hostels dedicated to providing respite places with a view to easing the pressure of carers and facilitating PWDs to adapt to the culture and lifestyle of residential care homes.	
012127 - 012507	Hong Kong Private Hostel and Rehabilitation Association Chairman	Expressing the view that the crux of the problem was the acute lack of supply to meet the huge demand for respite places; and the Administration should encourage more private RCHDs to offer residential respite services.	
012508 - 012833	Concern Group for Services for Disabled Adults Chairman	<p>Presentation of views that – [LC Paper No. CB(2)167/13-14(05)]</p> <p>(a) the lack of respite service for adult PWDs could be alleviated by increasing places provided by sheltered workshop and Day Activity Centre;</p> <p>(b) the number of respite places provided by the 16 District Support Centres for Persons with Disabilities ("DSCs") should be increased; and PWDs with urgent needs for respite service should be offered places regardless of district boundary;</p> <p>(c) with the launch of a statutory licensing system to ensure the service quality of RCHDs, the Administration should explore ways to invite private RCHDs to participate in the provision of residential respite service; and</p> <p>(d) the Administration should provide more support for carers of PWDs.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
012834 - 013214	Hong Kong Association for Parents of Persons with Physical Disabilities Chairman	<p>Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)149/13-14(02)]</p> <p>Views that the Administration should better utilize the residential respite places currently offered by special schools; and allocate recurrent funding for the provision of respite services for children with disabilities, especially those below the age of 15.</p>	
013215 - 013549	香港區私營院舍聯會 Chairman	<p>Presentation of views –</p> <p>(a) in support of setting up a computerized central platform providing latest updates on the availability of respite places for elderly persons and PWDs in different districts;</p> <p>(b) more training for carers and parents should be provided on day-care skills;</p> <p>(c) service centres should be set up to accommodate the short-term needs of either residential or short-stay respite service; and</p> <p>(d) collaboration should be developed with universities in regard to manpower and training for the elderly service and rehabilitation sector.</p>	
013540 - 015415	Chairman Administration Chairman	<p>Response of the Administration to deputations' views on respite service for PWDs –</p> <p>(a) recurrent funding would be allocated for the continuous provision of residential respite services for children with disabilities aged below 15. Currently a total of 122 places were offered with breakdown by districts as follows, Hong Kong Island (14), Kowloon East (30), Kowloon West (12), New Territories ("NT") (Shatin, Tai Po and North) (24), NT (Tsuen Wan, Kwai Chung and Tsing Yi) (28), and Tuen Mun and Tin Shui Wai (14);</p> <p>(b) the suggestion of increasing residential places at "special schools" for their students and other children with disabilities in the community would be referred to the Education Bureau ("EDB") for consideration, adding that the six special schools under the purview of the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") were for teenagers with behavioral</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>problems and not quite the same as hostels for children with disabilities;</p> <p>(c) as the way forward, more funding would be sought for increasing respite places for PWDs; and respite places would be reserved in newly built RCHDs having regard to the statutory spatial requirements for the provision of places in RCHDs;</p> <p>(d) the Administration was open to other suggestions by deputations regarding the enhancement of DSCs with the case management approach, and the provision of carers' allowance to carers of PWDs;</p> <p>(e) regarding respite places offered by private RCHDs, SWD would continue to implement the pilot Bought Place Scheme and increase the ceiling of the percentage of purchased places from 55% to 70%. More places would be purchased depending on the quality of services offered by private RCHDs;</p> <p>(f) a three-pronged approach had been adopted to enhance the respite service for PWDs, namely increase of respite places especially those for persons with severe disabilities, enhancement of day respite service, and regularization of the home-care services for persons with severe disabilities;</p> <p>(g) the Administration would study the feasibility of setting up a computerized central platform for respite service and one factor for consideration was the updating of the availability of places by various operators of residential care homes; and</p> <p>(h) the Administration would follow up on how to simplify the admission procedures; and the average period of stay for residential respite service.</p> <p>Response of the Administration to deputations' views on respite service for the elderly persons as follows –</p> <p>(a) apart from the 11 designated residential respite places, elderly persons in need could make use of the casual vacancies of the subsidized places in all subvented nursing</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>homes and care-and-attention homes, contract homes and private RCHEs participating in EBPS;</p> <p>(b) in the 2012-2013 financial year, some 400 elderly persons used the residential respite places offered by private RCHEs participating in EBPS; and</p> <p>(c) the Administration had committed to provide more training and support for carers. A pilot scheme on allowance for carers of elderly persons was being considered by the Community Care Fund Task Force under the Commission of Poverty.</p>	
015416 - 015841	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Administration Chairman	<p>Views of Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che that –</p> <p>(a) in support of deputations' requests for increasing respite places, developing a central platform, and the provision of respite places according to the service demand of individual districts; and</p> <p>(b) his suggestion that to ease the imminent demand for respite places for PWDs, the Administration should allocate funding to provide an additional 25 residential respite places for PWDs for each of the following districts, Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, NT East and NT West.</p> <p>Response of the Administration that the provision of respite places in its planning for new subvented RCHDs; and other measures such as increasing the ceiling of percentage of purchased places from 55% to 70% under the pilot Bought Place Scheme.</p>	
015842 - 020206	Mr POON Siu-ping Administration Chairman	<p>Enquiries of Mr POON Siu-ping on whether the Administration had undertaken studies regarding the demand for respite services for PWDs in different districts; and any timetable for the full implementation of the three-pronged measures to cope with the acute shortage of respite places.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that it fully recognized the huge demand for respite places in the community and had been committed to seeking additional funding for the enhancement of services. More details on funding allocation in 2014-2015 would be announced in the coming Budget.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
020207 - 020634	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Chairman	Views of Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung that the Administration should set specific goals for its provision of residential respite services and make it known to the public as well as private operators of RCHEs and RCHDs, so that they could have better preparation for offering the services.	
020635 - 022144	Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Administration Chairman	<p>Extension of the meeting for 25 minutes</p> <p>Views and requests of the Chairman that –</p> <p>(a) the Administration should look into the technical difficulties of developing the computerized central platform for respite places. The Administration was requested to report to the Joint Subcommittee on its detailed work plan and work progress four months after the meeting;</p> <p>(b) with the cessation of funding for the provision of residential respite places for children with disabilities aged below 15, the Administration should undertake to offer recurrent funding for the continuation of the service and in particular to increase places for children with severe disabilities;</p> <p>(c) EDB should be requested in writing to increase residential respite places in special schools under its purview and utilize those casually vacant places to meet the demand for short-term and/or urgent respite service for children with disabilities;</p> <p>(d) the Administration should look into the lack of places for urgent institutionalization of elderly persons and PWDs, especially for persons with severe disabilities; and</p> <p>(e) the utilization rate of residential respite places in EBPS RCHEs was very low. Stronger incentives should be offered to encourage private homes to offer residential respite places.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that –</p> <p>(a) subvented RCHEs had reserved places for the elderly persons with urgent needs for institutionalization, and as at 18 October 2013, 74% of a total of 65 such places were occupied;</p>	<p><b>Admin</b></p> <p><b>LegCo Secretariat</b></p>



Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>(b) currently DSCs could serve the urgent needs for occasional day care service for persons with severe disabilities, and home care service would be enhanced with the regularisation of the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities in March 2014; and</p> <p>(c) elderly persons and PWDs seeking respite places did not come under SWD's central waiting mechanism. It would therefore be difficult for the Administration to include respite places in the bought place quotas; and</p> <p>(d) it was desirable to use casual vacancies at EBPS private RCHEs to provide respite service, as the quality of service could be guaranteed.</p>	
022145 - 022304	The Forthright Caucus Chairman	Expressing the views that EDB should address the needs for short-term residential respite service (three to five months) to allow parents to have short breaks to handle urgent affairs.	
022305 - 022739	1 <sup>st</sup> Step Association Chairman Administration Chairman	<p>Views on the acute shortage of places for PWDs having immediate needs for institutionalization and that the Administration should tackle the manpower shortage in the rehabilitation sector for the regularization of the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities.</p> <p>Reply of the Administration that persons with severe disabilities could approach the home-care service for special arrangement to cater for emergency needs, even during holidays and night shifts.</p> <p>Summing up of the discussion by the Chairman</p>	
<i>Agenda item III – Continuation of work of the Joint Subcommittee</i>			
022740 - 022850	Chairman Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che	Consent of members on the proposed continuation of work of the Joint Subcommittee	
<i>Agenda item IV – Item(s) for discussion at the next meeting</i>			
022851 - 022903	Chairman	Date and discussion item for the next meeting	
<i>Agenda item V – Any other business</i>			
022904 - 022905	Chairman	Closing remarks	

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
26 November 2013