

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1289/13-14  
(These minutes have been  
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/WS

**Panel on Welfare Services**

**Minutes of special meeting  
held on Thursday, 23 January 2014, at 8:30 am  
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP  
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC  
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon WONG Yuk-man  
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming  
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon CHAN Han-pan  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH  
Hon TANG Ka-piu

**Members absent** : Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

**Members attending** : Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

**Public Officers :** Item II  
**attending**

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Mr Matthew CHEUNG, GBS, JP  
Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Miss Annie TAM, JP  
Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Ms Jane LEE  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare  
(Poverty)

Social Welfare Department

Ms Carol YIP, JP  
Director of Social Welfare

Mr FUNG Pak-yan  
Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Administration)

Mr LAM Ka-tai  
Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services)

Home Affairs Bureau

Ms Florence HUI Hiu-fai, SBS, JP  
Under Secretary for Home Affairs

Mrs Susanne WONG HO Wing-sze  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Civic  
Affairs) 3

Ms Candy LAU Li-yan  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs  
(Community Care Fund)

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

**Staff in attendance** : Miss Karen LAI  
Council Secretary (2) 4  
  
Miss Maggie CHIU  
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

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**I. Items for discussion at the regular meeting in February 2014**  
[LC Paper No. CB(2)750/13-14(01)]

Members agreed to discuss, at the regular meeting to be held on 10 February 2014, the following items proposed by the Administration –

- (a) Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses; and
- (b) Pilot scheme on the provision of living allowance to carers of the elderly from low income families.

**II. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2014 Policy Address**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)704/13-14(01) to (02), the 2014 Policy Address booklet and the 2014 Policy Agenda booklet]

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, Secretary for Labour and Welfare ("SLW") and Under Secretary for Home Affairs ("USHA") highlighted the major initiatives of the Labour and Welfare Bureau and the Home Affairs Bureau respectively, as set out in the 2014 Policy Address.

3. Regarding the three initiatives scheduled for submission to the Finance Committee ("FC") for funding approval, members agreed that the injection of \$50 million into the Elder Academy Development Foundation ("EADF") and \$200 million into the Hong Kong Paralympians Fund ("HKPF") would be dealt with at the meeting, while the transfer of funds into the Lotteries Fund ("LF") for the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses would be dealt with at the regular Panel meeting in February 2014.

*[Members agreed that the meeting be extended for 45 minutes to allow sufficient time for discussion.]*

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Discussion

Low-income Working Family Allowance

4. Members noted that the Low-income Working Family Allowance ("LIFA") comprised the Basic Allowance and the Child Allowance. If the income of a family was equivalent to or below 50% of the median monthly domestic household income ("MMDHI") and the applicant was a working member who met the working hour threshold, this family would be eligible for a full Basic Allowance of \$600 or \$1,000 per month depending on the working hours tier to which it belonged. Mr Frederick FUNG expressed the view that needy families should be offered a higher amount of Basic Allowance so that their household income could be supplemented to exceed 50% of MMDHI, thereby reducing the number of households below the poverty line. Noting that there would be a Child Allowance under LIFA, Mr Frederick FUNG, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung considered that similar allowance should be offered under LIFA to needy families with elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

5. SLW responded that the poverty line was not a poverty alleviation line but a measurement tool to assist policy formulation. The design of LIFA aimed to provide assistance to needy low-income working families, including those having income below or slightly higher than 50% of MMDHI. There would also be a child allowance of \$800 for each eligible child in the LIFA beneficiary households. LIFA's objective would be to encourage employment, promote self-reliance and help alleviate inter-generational poverty. The Administration had been offering assistance for the needy elderly people through social security measures such as the Old Age Living Allowance ("OALA"), and the Commission on Poverty ("CoP") had commissioned a consultancy study on retirement protection which would make recommendations on the way forward.

6. Regarding the working hour requirement of LIFA, Dr Fernando CHEUNG was of the view that working hours of the second breadwinner of a household should be counted to tie in with the Government policy on gender mainstreaming and encourage family members to stay in employment. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung cast doubt on the design of LIFA which did not cover singleton working poor or give special considerations to full-time carers of the chronically ill.

7. SLW replied that LIFA would be granted to the needy on a family basis and that it had a focus on helping to alleviate inter-generational poverty and promote upward social mobility in the long run. As for

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assistance for singletons, he said that with the introduction of statutory minimum wage, the recovery of labour market, and the enhancement of the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, the income of a full-time singleton worker would not be too low.

8. Mr POON Siu-ping considered that the asset test for LIFA should be removed and the launch date should be advanced to provide assistance for families in need as early as possible. Mr Alan LEONG enquired about the difficulties encountered by the Administration in the design of LIFA and the progress of finalizing the scheme. Mr Frederick FUNG urged the Administration to launch LIFA expeditiously as members expressed support for such a scheme long time ago.

9. SLW replied that it would be necessary to apply an asset test to LIFA to ensure that the limited public resources would be used for those most in need. The Administration would listen to the views of members and the public in the coming few months. The Administration planned to submit the funding proposal for LIFA to FC within this year and targeted to launch the scheme in 2015.

Parameters for poverty alleviation measures

10. Mr Michael TIEN declared that he was a member of CoP. He expressed support to the poverty alleviation measures in the Policy Address to offer assistance to persons with genuine difficulties and encourage active employment. Nevertheless, he held the view that since public rental housing was an important welfare measure to assist households in poverty, the Administration, in setting parameters for its poverty alleviation initiatives, should give due consideration to poor households not having public housing benefits.

11. SLW replied that CoP had thoroughly discussed whether to include the provision of public rental housing benefits in setting the poverty line. It was eventually decided that the provision of public rental housing would not be counted as part of the income in setting the poverty line. The Deputy Chairman said that, as a member of CoP, he had suggested that it would be fairer to adopt the concept of disposable income (with rental expenses excluded) in setting the related parameters for poverty alleviation measures, but the Administration considered that his suggestion was not feasible since related statistics were not available. He hoped the Administration would collect more information in this regard and consider using such calculation method in its future poverty alleviation measures. SLW agreed to convey his views to CoP.

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12. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed a strong view that the Administration should also provide assistance for working households above the poverty line in view of the increase in rental and soaring price of daily commodities. Mr TANG Ka-piu enquired whether the Administration had conducted any evaluation about the effectiveness of various CCF one-off subsidies for households living in rented private housing, and whether it would consider regularizing the programmes to strengthen its assistance for poor households on the waiting list for public rental housing. USHA responded that the pilot assistance programmes under CCF to subsidize households living in rented private housing were well received. The Administration would review the programmes from time to time and consider the feasibility of regularizing them having regard to the response from the community.

Provision of residential care homes for the elderly

13. Noting that about 5 000 additional subsidized residential care places would be provided within the current term of the Government, Dr Fernando CHEUNG pointed out that having deducted places reserved for the 3 000 Residential Care Service ("RCS") vouchers, the outstanding balance was not a huge number given the long queue on the Central Waiting List for subsidized residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs"). Mr Albert HO said that both facilities and manpower were not ready to cope with the demand for RCHE places arising from the growing ageing population. Mr WONG Yuk-man opined that the additional 5 000 subsidized RCHE places were not enough given the long waiting list. He called on the Administration to increase funding for the provision of elderly care services. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung urged the Administration to make a pledge to shorten the waiting time for subsidized elderly residential and community care services, and to increase funding to fulfill its commitment.

14. SLW replied that the Administration had planned well on the rolling out of the 5 000 places, including the 1 200 places as committed from 2013-2014 to 2015-2016. Eleven sites, with each of them planned to provide around 100 places, had been earmarked for the construction of new RCHEs. This apart, the Administration had received preliminary proposals from about 40 welfare organizations under the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses, involving about 60 in-situ expansion, redevelopment or development projects. Apart from additional service places for persons with disabilities, about 9 000 additional service places would be provided for the elderly.

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15. Whilst supporting the pilot scheme through LF to recruit young people to join the workforce of care personnel to address the acute manpower shortage in the welfare sector, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung was worried that the number of new entrants was not enough to cope with the workload arising from the increase of RCHE places in the coming years.

16. SLW said that under the pilot scheme, the "first-hire-then-train" approach was introduced to attract young people to join the elderly care services. An additional 1 000 places would be provided for young people who had graduated from Secondary 5 or 6 level in the coming few years. Apart from the pilot scheme, the Administration would continue its efforts to train healthcare professionals through collaboration with the Employees Retraining Board, the Hospital Authority, the Food and Health Bureau, the Education Bureau, and the University Grants Committee.

17. Noting that many elderly persons, in order to be eligible for receiving the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA"), opted to move away from families and stay in residential care homes, Mr Albert HO urged the Administration to allow needy elderly persons to apply for CSSA on an individual basis so that they could age in place, thereby alleviating the acute demand for subsidized RCHE places.

18. Mr CHAN Han-pan said that due to soaring rental and increase in staff salaries, there had been a substantial increase in accommodation fees of RCHEs. He asked if the Administration would raise the payments for elderly CSSA recipients who resided in RCHEs to ease their burden in paying accommodation fees.

19. SLW responded that under CSSA, apart from the standard payments, elderly recipients living in non-subsidized residential care homes were provided with a Residential Care Supplement to subsidize their expenses for accommodation in RCHEs. He further said that the Chief Executive had tasked the Elderly Commission ("EC") to explore the feasibility of introducing a scheme on RCS voucher for the elderly which would enhance support for elderly persons living in RCHEs through the "money-follows-the-user" approach.

RCS and CCS vouchers for the elderly

20. The Deputy Chairman questioned why the Administration put forward the RCS voucher within a very short period of time without drawing experience from the lately launched CCS voucher for the elderly. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung enquired about the feedback to the pilot scheme

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on CCS voucher for the elderly and the difficulties in implementing the voucher pilot schemes.

21. SLW responded that launched in September 2013, the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher benefited more than 830 eligible elderly persons through the provision of day care services and/or home care services under the "money-follows-the-user" approach. Tasked by the Chief Executive to explore the feasibility of introducing RCS vouchers for the elderly, EC would submit its recommendations to the Government in a year's time. The Government would provide necessary resources having regard to the recommendations of EC on the viability of launching the scheme. In this connection, the Government had earmarked a total of \$800 million to meet the expenses for issuing 3 000 vouchers in three phases from 2015-2016 to 2017-2018. The pilot scheme would provide needy elderly persons with more diversified choices and would encourage more self-financing and private RCHes to participate in the scheme.

22. Dr Fernando CHEUNG held the view that the means test requirements for the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher should be reviewed and the proposed additional staffing support to EC in exploring the feasibility of introducing RCS voucher should be extended to studying the enhancement of CCS as well. Mr Albert HO called on the Administration to strengthen the provision of CCS to facilitate the elderly to age in place. He said that the CCS voucher for the elderly was piecemeal as the number of vouchers issued was too small.

The pilot RCS scheme in Guangdong

23. Mr POON Siu-ping enquired about the timetable for purchasing places from the elderly homes in Guangdong and the number of target beneficiaries of the scheme. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung asked about details of the scheme, in particular the arrangement with an elderly home in Zhaoqing. Pointing out that the vacancy rate of the two elderly homes in Shenzhen and Zhaoqing under the scheme was about 50%, Mr Alan LEONG wondered whether the low occupancy rate was due to the lack of medical and healthcare facilities on the Mainland. He asked whether the Administration had taken into account the concern of Hong Kong elderly people about the adequacy of healthcare services on the Mainland in its planning of the pilot scheme.

24. SLW replied that the Administration was confident that the elderly home in Yantian, Shenzhen, which was located not far away from Hong Kong, would be an option for Hong Kong elderly persons. Invitation for



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joining the scheme, with an intake quota of about 100 places, would be conducted in the second quarter of 2014 and placements would be arranged for eligible elderly persons starting from the third quarter of 2014. The Administration was exploring similar arrangement with another home run by a Hong Kong non-governmental organization in Zhaoqing.

Other welfare measures for the elderly

25. Mr WONG Kwok-hing urged the Administration to provide assistance for the elderly aged 60 to 64 who were not eligible for CSSA, the Mandatory Provident Fund, or various welfare measures ranging from OALA, the Old Age Allowance ("OAA"), the \$2 concessionary fare for public transport to the Elderly Health Care Voucher. Noting that the Administration would explore the feasibility of extending OALA to Guangdong, Mr WONG considered that eligible Hong Kong elderly persons should also be allowed to receive OAA or OALA if they retired in Fujian.

26. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung was disappointed that the Administration neglected the difficulties of elderly persons aged 60-64. He said that elderly persons encountered discrimination when seeking employment and called on the Administration to work out effective measures to assist elderly persons with working capacity to find jobs.

27. SLW explained that in view of the ageing population, the Administration should ensure that public funding was deployed properly to assist persons with genuine difficulties. Elderly persons with difficulties could approach welfare service units for assistance including the provision of food through the food bank. Job opportunities were available for persons aged 60 to 64 in the labour market and the Administration was considering extending the retirement age given the shrinking labour population. As regards discrimination against senior job seekers, SLW said that it would be more practicable to eliminate the discrimination through publicity and education, instead of by legislation.

28. Mr CHAN Han-pan gave credit to the doubling of the elderly health care voucher amount to \$2,000 and requested the Administration to extend the \$2 concessionary fare to bus services in Ma Wan for the convenience of elderly residents. Mr TANG Ka-piu asked whether the concessionary fare would be extended to "kaito" services from Po Toi Island to Aberdeen.

29. SLW replied that the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities had been implemented by

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phases, with extension to green minibuses starting from the first quarter of 2015. The Administration was exploring with the trade and Octopus Cards Limited ways to resolve the technical and operational problems involved. To determine whether a mode of transport could be included under the Scheme, it would be important for the Administration to consider whether the operation of that particular mode of transport had been licensed and whether the fare was regulated as the Administration had to reimburse the transport operators the fare differential on an accountable basis under the Scheme.

Support for persons with disabilities

30. The Deputy Chairman enquired why the pilot scheme on allowance for carers to be launched under CCF was confined to carers of elderly only but not extended to carers of persons with disabilities. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung raised similar concerns. SLW replied that the pilot scheme would be launched under CCF to provide assistance for carers taking care of elderly persons at home, thereby alleviating the pressing needs for institutionalization, and allowing women care-takers to join the labour market. In the light of the experience of the pilot scheme, the Administration would consider the feasibility of extending the scheme to carers of persons with disabilities.

31. Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed concern about the acute shortage of subsidized places for pre-school rehabilitation and residential care homes for persons with disabilities ("RCHDs"). Mr TANG Ka-piu enquired about the proposed upgrading of the ranking of Commissioner for Rehabilitation ("C for R") and was concerned whether the set up of Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness ("ICCMWs") and District Support Centres ("DSCs") for Persons with Disabilities had been proceeded as scheduled.

32. SLW responded that following the application of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to Hong Kong in 2008, C for R had taken up the role as the focal point within the HKSAR Government for matters relating to the implementation of the Convention. The Administration proposed to upgrade the ranking of C for R and strengthen the establishment of his team so as to enhance co-ordination among various bureaux/departments in implementing the Convention, and would revert to the Panel shortly on the details. The Administration also strived to earmark permanent sites for the construction of ICCMWs and DSCs for Persons with Disabilities, and to increase RCHD places through the regularization of the Bought Place Scheme for Private RCHDs, with the

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upper limit of subsidized places in each home raised from 55% to 70%.

33. Noting that additional funding would be provided to strengthen the manpower of service centres which offered sign language interpretation service, Dr Helena WONG was worried that the Administration had over-emphasized sign language services and neglected the need for training to enhance the speaking capability of persons with hearing impairment. She called on the Administration to develop services for early identification of hearing impairment and timely referral for rehabilitation and invited SLW to meet the parents of children with hearing impairment. SLW replied that the Administration was mindful of the need for offering training on speaking capability to children with hearing impairment and he would be pleased to meet their parents to follow up their concerns.

Social welfare planning

34. Noting that the Chief Executive would ask EC to prepare an Elderly Services Programme Plan within two years, the Deputy Chairman opined that instead of formulating a programme plan, the Administration should prepare a high-level blueprint of elderly care policy with input from relevant government bureaux/departments. Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr TANG Ka-piu said that in formulating its long-term care policy, the Administration should provide the long-term care services according to users' needs, instead of the age limit. They urged that such guiding principle should be observed when EC prepared the Elderly Services Programme Plan.

35. SLW replied that the Elderly Services Programme Plan would be prepared in accordance with the guiding principle of "Ageing in place as the core, institutional care as back-up". The Administration had been committed to formulating elderly care policies holistically, having regard to considerations on different areas including medical, housing, as well as population strategies, where appropriate. He added that the Administration was aware of members' concerns about the age limit regarding the provision of long-term care services and would take account of that in implementing its long-term care policy.

36. Dr Fernando CHEUNG enquired about the location, specific categories of services, and the funding for each item regarding the proposal to transfer \$10 billion to LF for the implementation of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses. Mr POON Siu-ping asked about the preliminary implementation timetable and funding allocation for the Special Scheme. SLW replied that the Administration would provide

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details of the Special Scheme at the next regular Panel meeting in February 2014.

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37. The Deputy Chairman expressed support to the commitment of an additional recurrent expenditure of about \$470 million under the Lump Sum Grant ("LSG") Subvention System in 2014-2015 and requested the Administration to provide details of the additional LSG funding, broken down by four categories, viz. central administrative support; supervisory support to enhance front-line service; provision for "Other Charges"; and recruitment of paramedical staff.

Women employment

38. Dr Helena WONG pointed out that the consultation paper published in October 2013 by the Steering Committee on Population Policy indicated that the overall labour force participation rate ("LFPR") for women in 2012 was 49.6%, which was lower than 68.7% for men, and there was a sharp decline of women's LFPR within the 30 to 39 age group. Dr WONG considered that the main reason for the low women's LFPR was taking care of children. She opined that the Administration, instead of wasting time to conduct survey on the reasons, should expeditiously increase service quotas of child care places, especially those for subsidized full-day standalone child care centres, and adjust the incentive payment to child carers servicing the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project ("NSCCP") so that it could on a par with the statutory minimum wage. She also called on the Administration to regulate the agencies for employment of foreign domestic helpers for the purpose of protecting women interest.

39. The Deputy Chairman enquired about the reasons for lifting the age limit of service beneficiaries under NSCCP from under six to under nine but not further lifting the age limit to, for example, 12. He pointed out that leaving children aged below 12 unattended at home was also prohibited under the existing legislation.

40. SLW replied that the Administration had been providing a wide range of child care and supportive services for parents who were unable to provide proper care for their children owing to work or other reasons. Parents having children aged six to 12 could apply for the After School Care Programme which provided homework guidance, skill learning and other social activities. The Administration would continue to monitor the operation of various services to ensure that they met changing demands.

41. The Chairman expressed the view that unleashing women workforce

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would be a win-win solution for the Government to help women in poverty and deal with the shrinking labour population. Given the acute manpower shortage in elderly care services, she advised that the Administration could explore the feasibility of strengthening NSCCP and encouraging employers to provide child care services at workplace. At the request of the Chairman, the Administration would provide a paper on its measures to unleash the women workforce, with details on justifications for setting the upper age limit of children eligible for NSCCP, and whether it had any plans to reserve space for the provision of child care services in the vicinity of newly built RCHEs to encourage women to join the workforce of elderly care services.

Funding proposals to FC

42. The Chairman invited members to give views on the proposed injection of additional funding into EADF and HKPF which would be submitted to FC for consideration at its meeting on 21 February 2014. She drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure regarding personal pecuniary interest to be disclosed and reminded members to declare interests, if any, in the matter under discussion.

*EADF*

43. Dr Fernando CHEUNG supported the injection of \$50 million into EADF to encourage elderly persons to pursue lifelong learning. Echoing Dr CHEUNG's support, Mr TANG Ka-piu pointed out that elderly participants of the Elder Academy Scheme ("EA Scheme") had different needs ranging from enhancement of vocational skills to personal interests. He enquired whether the Administration would set any direction in curriculum design for learning programmes under the EA Scheme.

44. SLW responded that the primary objective of the EA Scheme was to encourage the elderly to pursue continued learning in a school setting so that they could lead a more fulfilled life, and to interact more with the young generation. Mr TANG's views would be conveyed to relevant parties with a view to developing more diversified programmes for the Scheme.

*HKPF*

45. Whilst supporting the additional injection of \$200 million into HKPF, Dr Fernando CHEUNG urged the Administration to narrow the significant disparity between the amount of monthly subsidy provided to elite athletes

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and elite athletes with disabilities and strengthen the employment assistance for retired athletes with disabilities. He pointed out that the Equal Opportunities Commission, in its paper published in 2010 in response to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, called on the Administration to ensure that there should be substantial equality in giving financial support to elite athletes, irrespective of whether they were disabled or not.

46. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung shared similar views that the existing subsidy level for athletes with disabilities should be raised to support their living so that they could be more focused on sport training.

47. Mr TANG Ka-piu considered that the Administration should promote the policy of sports for all in particular potential athletes with disabilities. He expressed concern about whether the subsistence grants under HKPF were adequate to support athletes with disabilities to engage in full-time training and urged the Administration to enhance its support for retired athletes with disabilities.

48. USHA responded that the Administration had been committed to recognizing the contributions of athletes with disabilities and promoting sports for all in the community. The purpose of HKPF was to enhance the prevailing support to athletes with disabilities during various stages of their sporting career and after their retirement. The Administration would review the level of subsidies for athletes with disabilities from time to time, and members' views would be considered at the time of review. In respect of support for retired athletes with disabilities, she said that job opportunities were offered by various social enterprises.

49. Members supported in principle the submission of the two funding proposals to FC. To facilitate members' further discussion on HKPF at the relevant FC meeting, the Chairman requested the Administration to provide in its funding proposal to FC the number of athletes with disabilities receiving support from HKPF and the amount of subsistence and facilitating grants offered to athletes under HKPF.

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50. In closing, the Chairman said that initiatives in the Policy Address marked a step forward in poverty alleviation, elderly care and long-term welfare services. She pointed out that notwithstanding voices in the community to safeguard the interests of middle class and employers, the Administration should not withdraw its commitments to assist the grass-roots people, in particular, measures to unleash the women workforce and support the elderly and persons with disabilities. She invited

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members to continue discussion on the Policy Address at another special meeting of the Panel to be held on 29 January 2014.

**III. Any other business**

51. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:45 am.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
11 April 2014