

# 立法會 *Legislative Council*

LC Paper No. CB(2)2196/13-14

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seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/WS

## **Panel on Welfare Services**

### **Minutes of special meeting held on Wednesday, 29 January 2014, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
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 LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

**Members absent** : Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP  
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC  
Hon CHAN Han-pan  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon TANG Ka-piu

**Public Officers : Item I  
attending**

Labour and Welfare Bureau

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

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

Social Welfare Department

Miss Cecilla LI  
Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Elderly)

Mr FONG Kai-leung  
Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Rehabilitation &  
Medical Social Services)

Miss Maria LAU  
Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Social Security)

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

Miss Maggie CHIU  
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

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**I. Policy initiatives relating to the purview of the Panel on Welfare Services set out in the Chief Executive's 2014 Policy Address**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)704/13-14(01) to (02), CB(2)754/13-14(01) to (02), the 2014 Policy Address booklet and the 2014 Policy Agenda booklet]

The Chairman said that, further to the special meeting held on 23 January 2014 regarding policy initiatives relating to the purview of the Panel set out in the Chief Executive's 2014 Policy Address, this meeting was held to enable members to express further views and seek the Administration's response thereon.

Discussion

Elderly services

2. Noting that the Elderly Commission ("EC") was tasked to draw up an Elderly Services Programme Plan ("ES Programme Plan") in the next two years, the Deputy Chairman enquired whether EC would invite inputs from different bureaux/departments and consult different stakeholders, including service users, non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") and the public in drawing up the Programme Plan. Mr TAM Yiu-chung said that he urged the Administration to formulate five-year plan for elderly services long time ago. He expected that the ES Programme Plan should be a holistic framework based on which the Government would project accurately the allocation of land and manpower for elderly services in the coming years.

3. Secretary for Labour and Welfare ("SLW") replied that though the ES Programme Plan mainly covered the elderly services offered by the Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB"), additional staffing support would be provided for EC for coordinating the inputs for matters that cut across other bureaux/departments and committees. EC would consult different stakeholders and would commission a consultant to undertake in-depth study on important issues regarding the long-term development of elderly care services. The Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses ("Special Scheme") would be taken into account in the wider context of the ES Programme Plan.

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4. Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that he did not see any concrete and long-term commitment by the Government for elderly services as for now since the ES Programme Plan was to be completed two years later. In his view, the Administration should provide residential and community support services to persons in need irrespective of the recipients' age. Such views should be conveyed to EC for the drawing up of the ES Programme Plan. He also enquired about the duties of the new posts proposed for providing support for EC. SLW said that he noted Dr CHEUNG's concerns on the provision of long-term care services for the needy regardless of recipients' age and undertook to convey his views to EC for its consideration. The proposed new posts would provide support to EC in preparing the ES Programme Plan and exploring the feasibility of introducing the residential care service ("RCS") voucher for the elderly.

5. Concerning RCS for the elderly, the Deputy Chairman asked about the timeframe for the provision of 5 000 additional subsidized residential care places within the current term of the Government as pledged by the Administration. Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether the Administration had any concrete plans for the provision of RCS in terms of manpower supply and acquisition of sites, in particular the new development zones in the north east New Territories. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung asked about details of the Administration's plan to identify sites for the construction of residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs").

6. SLW responded that of the 5 000 additional subsidized residential care places, subject to the findings by EC on the feasibility of introducing RCS vouchers for the elderly, the Government planned to issue 3 000 vouchers in three phases for the three-year period from 2015-2016 to 2017-2018. For the remaining places, 1 700 places would be offered by 2015-2016, and 300 places would be offered under the Bought / Purchase Place Schemes in 2014-2015. With the implementation of the Special Scheme, the Administration had received preliminary proposals from about 40 welfare organizations involving about 60 in-situ expansion, redevelopment or development projects. Based on the rough estimation of the applicant organizations, if the some 60 proposals received could be implemented smoothly, the Special Scheme would provide about 9 000 service places for elderly persons (7 000 residential and 2 000 day centre places) and 7 000 places for persons with disabilities (5 000 day training and 2 000 residential care home places) in the coming five to 10 years or so. In addition, the Administration had earmarked 11 sites for the construction of new RCHEs. At the request of the Chairman, the Administration would provide detailed information regarding the locations of the 11 sites reserved for the construction of new RCHEs.

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(*Post-meeting note:* The requisite information (Chinese version) was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)973/13-14(01) dated 28 February 2014. The English version was issued on 4 March 2014.)

7. The Chairman was concerned about the lack of residential places and manpower to meet the challenges arising from the ageing population. She urged the Administration to work out concrete measures to address the manpower shortage of elderly services, for example, to consider reserving space for the provision of child care services in the vicinity of newly built RCHEs to encourage female home-makers to join the workforce.

8. SLW replied that the Administration strived to assist NGOs in completing their projects under the Special Scheme expeditiously. It would also strengthen child care services with a view to encouraging female home-makers to join the workforce of elderly care services.

Pilot residential care service scheme in Guangdong

9. Dr Fernando CHEUNG held the view that participation by elderly persons in the pilot scheme in Guangdong ("GD") should be subject to their own wish. He cast doubt on the feasibility of the pilot scheme since many elderly persons had raised concerns about healthcare facilities in the Mainland and the far distance from family members in Hong Kong ("HK"). Sharing Dr CHEUNG's view, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung said that the main concern of HK elderly persons was the provision of quality healthcare services and facilities in the Mainland.

10. SLW responded that the pilot scheme aimed to provide an option for Hong Kong elderly persons who intended to return to the Mainland after retirement, but not to force them to move to GD. Under the pilot scheme, the Administration would purchase places from two elderly care homes run by HK NGOs in Shenzhen and Zhaoqing. Due to its proximity with HK, the care home in Yantian, Shenzhen, offered convenience for elderly residents for receiving services at the North District Hospital in HK. For the care home in Zhaoqing, there was a district hospital in the vicinity and the Administration would explore the feasibility of offering a medical insurance for HK elderly residents. SLW highlighted that the pilot scheme tied in with the implementation of the Guangdong Scheme ("GD Scheme") which allowed eligible elderly persons residing in GD to receive the Old Age Allowance ("OAA"). The Administration would explore the feasibility of extending the GD Scheme to recipients of the Old Age Living Allowance ("OALA").

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11. Mr Gary FAN pointed out that only 124 places of the elderly care home in Shenzhen were occupied in 2012-2013, representing 35.3% of the total number of places. In his view, the low occupancy rate revealed that HK elderly persons did not have confidence in the medical and healthcare facilities in the Mainland and reluctant to leave family members in HK. Mr FAN asked what concrete measures the Administration would take to strengthen the confidence of the elderly in joining the pilot scheme.

12. Mr Alan LEONG enquired whether the Administration had estimated the number of elderly persons who accepted the option to reside in elderly care homes in GD and asked about the implementation timetable. The Deputy Chairman was concerned about the rationale for fixing the target number of purchased places and whether the Administration had set any intake quota for the pilot scheme.

13. Whilst expressing support to the pilot scheme which provided an option for elderly persons, Mr TAM Yiu-chung worried that not many elderly persons would opt to reside at the care homes in GD.

14. SLW said that the Administration endeavored to enhance healthcare support to eligible elderly persons at the two homes under the pilot scheme. According to a survey done a few years ago, about 4% of the total of 20 000 elderly persons on the Central Waiting List for subsidized residential care places wished to reside in residential care homes in the Mainland. The Social Welfare Department ("SWD") would invite eligible elderly persons to consider joining the pilot scheme in the second quarter of 2014 and arrange placements at the home in Shenzhen starting from the third quarter of 2014. It was also exploring similar arrangements with the care home in Zhaoqing. Having considered the response from the elderly and the requirement to be cost-effective, the Administration planned to purchase 400 places from the two homes initially.

OALA and OAA

15. Given that OALA had been introduced since April 2013, the Deputy Chairman wondered why the Administration took so long to explore the feasibility of extending the GD Scheme to OALA.

16. Mr TAM Yiu-chung enquired whether it was due to technicality issues that at the current stage the GD Scheme could not benefit the eligible OALA recipients who chose to reside in GD. Mr TAM also asked about the reasons why some elderly applicants for the GD Scheme had not yet received OAA.

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17. SLW said that the initial response to the GD Scheme had been positive. By the end of 2013, about 16 700 elderly persons had submitted applications and so far about 8 900 had been approved for receiving the allowance. Regarding those applicants who had not yet received OAA, he explained that some elderly persons, because of health reasons, were unfit to travel to HK to apply in person in the designated social security field unit in Sheung Shui. An appointed agent would need to pay home visits to such elderly persons and the related procedures would take time. The related procedures would be completed within the next two months and the allowance would be disbursed to the applicants concerned with retrospective effect from 1 October 2013. Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Social Security) ("ADSW(SS)") supplemented that the related procedures included interview with applicants, means test on applicants, and home visits. OAA would be provided for eligible elderly applicants as soon as possible.

18. Regarding the extension of the GD Scheme to OALA, SLW explained that OALA, which doubled the amount of OAA, was a means-tested allowance involving more complexity in vetting the eligibility of elderly applicants. To ensure proper deployment of funding, the Administration would need to be prudent when considering the extension.

19. In response to Mr TAM Yiu-chung's enquiry on whether the Administration would raise the asset threshold of OALA, SLW said that the asset limit for a single person under OALA had been raised from \$193,000 to \$201,000 with effect from February 2014 according to the established mechanism. The Administration would consider if any further adjustment would be needed during the review to be conducted at the end of 2014.

Transport concession and services for the elderly and persons with disabilities

20. Mr Alan LEONG enquired why the extension of the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities ("the Scheme") to green minibuses ("GMB") should wait until the first quarter of 2015. SLW replied that the Administration was actively negotiating with the trade for the proposed extension and the Transport Department ("TD") was exploring with the trade and the Octopus Cards Limited to resolve the technical, operational, accounting and auditing problems, with a view to extending the Scheme to GMB in phases starting from the first quarter of 2015.

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21. Whilst welcoming the extension of the Scheme to GMB, Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that GMB, without the provision of barrier-free facilities, was not a preferred transport vehicle for persons with disabilities. He further pointed out that of the 13 635 requests for dial-a-ride rebus services in 2013 which were not entertained, some 7 000 were requests for attending medical appointments. He urged LWB to liaise with the Hospital Authority ("HA") and TD to improve the transport services for persons with disabilities. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung urged the Administration to expeditiously improve the transport services for persons with disabilities, in particular the services of rehab taxis.

22. SLW replied that starting from 2015, all franchised buses would be converted into super-low floor buses to cater for the transport needs of persons with disabilities. Regarding rebus services, a point-to-point transport service was offered for persons with disabilities through scheduled route and dial-a-ride services. The Administration had been allocating more resources in procuring new rehab buses. LWB would work with the Food and Health Bureau and TD to improve the dial-a-ride services and consider ways to improve rehab taxi services, which were currently run by a social enterprise with limited number of rehab taxis.

Services for persons with disabilities

23. Whilst supporting the drawing up of the ES Programme Plan by EC, Dr Fernando CHEUNG called on the Administration to have long-term planning on its welfare policy for persons with disabilities since the last Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan was drawn up in 2007. He also urged that the Administration to formulate long-term care policy according to the principle to offer support for persons in need irrespective of recipients' age and to extend the pilot scheme on carer allowance for the elderly under the Community Care Fund ("CCF") to carers of persons with disabilities.

24. SLW replied that the Administration planned to first draw up the Programme Plan for the elderly. That said, the Administration had been committed to enhancing rehabilitation services and would duly consider members' views regarding the provision of long-term care services regardless of recipients' age.

25. Noting that the Government pledged to provide 6 200 additional places of rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, Dr Fernando CHEUNG asked about the category, specific service content and timetable for the provision of such places.



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26. SLW responded that the 6 200 additional places would be provided within the current term of the Government, including 2 016 day training and vocational rehabilitation service places, 2 713 residential care service places and 1 471 pre-school rehabilitation places. The Administration would provide detailed information on the timetable for the provision of places for members' reference.

*(Post-meeting note: The requisite information (Chinese version) was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)973/13-14(01) dated 28 February 2014. The English version was issued on 4 March 2014.)*

27. The Deputy Chairman pointed out that the training subsidy for pre-school rehabilitation services offered under the Community Care Fund ("CCF") was mainly for children from low-income families. He enquired whether the Administration would provide subsidies for children from middle class families. Noting that the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities ("Pilot Scheme") was well received, he asked whether the Administration had conducted any evaluation on the Pilot Scheme and collected feedback from users for its enhancement in the future.

28. Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services) ("ADSW(R&MSS)") responded that the assistance programme for children from low-income families under CCF launched in December 2011 was a means-tested scheme. While the programme would be incorporated into the Government's regular subvented service in 2014-2015, the Administration would also offer 1 471 additional pre-school rehabilitation places during the current term to provide services to cater for the overall service demand. Regarding the Pilot Scheme, he said that given that the Pilot Scheme had proven to be a success, it would be regularized in March 2014 and be extended to persons with severe disabilities in all districts, irrespective of whether they were on the waiting list for residential care services. The Administration had conducted an interim review of the Pilot Scheme and would provide a summary of review findings for members' reference.

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*(Post-meeting note: The requisite information (Chinese version) was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)973/13-14(01) dated 28 February 2014. The English version was issued on 4 March 2014.)*

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Provision of residential care home places for persons with disabilities

29. The Deputy Chairman enquired about the number of places purchased under the Pilot Bought Place Scheme for Private Residential Care Homes for Persons with Disabilities ("BPS"), and its future target number as the Government had decided to regularize BPS with the cap of subsidized places in each home raised from 55% to 70%.

30. ADSW (R&MSS) responded that with the launch of BPS in October 2010, the Administration had purchased a total of 245 places from private residential care homes for persons with disabilities ("RCHDs"). With the second round of tendering commenced, the Administration was confident that the number would exceed the planned target of 300 places within this year. Having regard to the stakeholders' support for BPS, the Government would regularize BPS and encourage more quality private RCHDs to join BPS with a view to increasing the supply of quality subsidized RCHD places.

Support for athletes with disabilities

31. Following up his concerns raised at the special meeting on 23 January, Dr Fernando CHEUNG strongly requested the Administration to narrow the gap between subsidies to elite athletes and elite athletes with disabilities, so that the latter could be offered with better support for full-time training.

32. Under Secretary for Home Affairs ("USHA") responded that the level of funding support for elite athletes with disabilities for awards gained at international games had been raised following the reviews conducted in 2009 and 2013. As the level of support would be reviewed from time to time, Dr CHEUNG's views would be considered in the next round of review. USHA further said that the Administration had been committed to providing support for athletes with disabilities. Apart from the prevailing support provided by the Hong Kong Sports Institute, currently there were three schemes offering support for elite athletes with disabilities, namely the Arts and Sport Development Fund under the purview of the Home Affairs Bureau; and the Sports Subvention Scheme and feeder programmes to identify youngsters with the potential for further training managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The proposal to inject \$200 million into the Hong Kong Paralympians Fund aimed to ensure its sustainability and strengthen support to athletes with disabilities during various stages of their sporting career.

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Improving the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme

33. The Deputy Chairman enquired about the rationale of the eligibility criteria for the subsidy offered under the CCF Programme for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") recipients who were owners of Tenants Purchase Scheme ("TPS") flats, and whether the Administration had any plan to review the maximum levels of the rent allowance ("MRA") under the CSSA Scheme given that many CSSA households living in rented private housing were paying a rent exceeding MRA.

34. ADSW(SS) responded that the CSSA Scheme aimed to provide support for needy people to meet their basic needs. For CSSA recipients who were TPS flat owners, allowance would only be provided if they had purchased the flat for more than five years. Such a criterion was set to ensure that support would only be given to an owner when he/she could not re-sell his/her TPS flat to the Housing Authority after the expiry of the five-year resale period. As regards MRA under CSSA, she said that CSSA recipients living in rented private housing paying a rent exceeding MRA could apply for a one-off subsidy under CCF to relieve their financial burden as a result of the periodic increase of rent.

Universal retirement protection and population policy

35. The Chairman enquired about the progress of the consultancy study undertaken by the team led by Professor Nelson Chow concerning retirement protection and the Administration's plan to take forward his recommendations. She also called on the Administration to work out measures to unleash the potential female workforce in view of the low labour force participation rate for women as revealed in the population policy consultation document published in October 2013.

36. SLW replied that the study by Professor Chow would be submitted to the Commission on Poverty in mid 2014. The population policy public engagement exercise would close by 23 February 2014. The Chief Secretary for Administration and him would report to Members in early February 2014 the key engagement activities and the major views received on population policy at a meeting of the House Committee. He reiterated that the Administration had been working on ways to unleash the potential workforce, including child care services and various forms of employment assistance programmes to enhance the employability of different age groups.

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Low-income Working Family Allowance

37. Mr TAM Yiu-chung said that in the light of the implementation experience of the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme, the Administration should consider whether applications made on both household and individual basis should be allowed under the proposed Low-income Working Family Allowance ("LIFA") Scheme.

38. SLW responded that LIFA aimed to provide assistance for non-CSSA low-income working families with at least two members with a view to encouraging employment and alleviating children poverty. In addition to a Basic Allowance of which the amount would depend on the working hour threshold reached by the breadwinner of the family, a Child Allowance would be offered under LIFA for applicant families with children. It was estimated that 180 000 eligible children could benefit from the scheme and the child poverty rate could be reduced by 4.4%. Members would be consulted on the LIFA Scheme before the submission of the relevant funding proposal to the Finance Committee for approval.

39. Dr Fernando CHEUNG took the view that while an allowance would be offered to families with children under LIFA, a special allowance should also be provided for families with members with disabilities. Referring to the Administration's explanation that financial support for persons with disabilities was pending the result of the review on the Disability Allowance ("DA"), he asked when the review of DA would be completed and whether the payment level of DA would be raised.

40. SLW responded that the Inter-departmental Working Group on Review of the Disability Allowance ("the Working Group") endeavored to complete the study on DA and related issues by the end of 2014. The Working Group had also commissioned a university to study experience outside Hong Kong as further reference for its study.

Children welfare

41. Dr Fernando CHEUNG was of the view that the Administration should set up a dedicated commission to safeguard the well-being of children and ensure that children's perspectives were fully taken into account in the process of formulating policies. Referring to the Administration's explanation that the Family Council was set up for safeguarding the interest of children, he pointed out that the Family Council did not focus on children's rights and the Government should expeditiously set up a commission on children.

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42. Referring to the Government's plan to inject \$400 million into the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged ("PFD"), Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked about the specific projects to be launched to assist children from disadvantaged background, ways to identify the target children beneficiaries, and whether the coverage of the projects included Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung, and the North district.

43. SLW replied that of the total sum of injection into PFD, \$200 million would be dedicated to launching more after-school learning and support programmes for primary and secondary school students from grassroots families. With support from the business sector, two pilot schemes had been rolled out to provide after-school learning support and mentoring services for children from disadvantaged background, including life planning, extra-curriculum development, and programmes to enhance the capability of children with learning difficulties. As regards the service coverage, he said that PFD was a matching fund to promote tripartite partnership among the welfare sector, the business community and the Government. The Administration would continue encouraging the business sector to support projects for the benefit of more children from disadvantaged background in different districts.

Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness

44. Dr KWOK Ka-ki enquired about the target number of cases to be handled by the Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness ("ICCMWs") in the financial year 2014-2015. In view of the huge service demand in the community, he strongly urged the Administration to allocate more resources to strengthen the services of ICCMWs.

45. ADSW(R&MSS) said that since its inception in October 2010 to September 2013, ICCMWs had handled 33 000 cases covering a wide array of community support services for discharged mental patients, persons with suspected mental problems, their families and carers, including cases referred by HA, the Housing Department and the Police. Additional funding had been allocated for ICCMWs to strengthen manpower to dovetail with the HA's Case Management Programme for patients with severe mental illness. He further said that the Administration would keep in view the operation of the ICCMWs and the service needs of the persons with mental health problems living in the community.

[The Deputy Chairman took the chair at this juncture.]

Action

Human resources in care services

46. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung considered that in view of the growth of ageing population and the Government's plan to substantially increase RCHE places, the Administration should ensure the adequate supply of healthcare professionals and care workers to keep pace with the expansion of elderly services in the coming years.

47. SLW responded that to attract young people to join the workforce of elderly care services, the Administration launched a pilot scheme through the Lotteries Fund in 2013 to recruit young people to provide care services at RCHEs. Apart from receiving on-the-job training, the young employees were provided with subsidies from the Government to pursue a two-year part-time Diploma in Health Studies course offered by the Open University of Hong Kong. Additional resources would be allocated to expand the pilot scheme to include more elderly services units and to cover rehabilitation services, with an additional 1 000 places to be rolled out for secondary 5 or secondary 6 level graduates in the coming few years. Apart from the pilot scheme, the Vocational Training Council and Employees Retraining Board had organized training programmes on elderly care services for newly arrived women, middle age persons, female home-makers and ethnic minorities. To alleviate the shortage of enrolled nurses, SWD, in collaboration with HA, had implemented the Enrolled Nurse Training Programme under which trainees had to sign an undertaking to work for the welfare sector for at least two years after satisfactory completion of the training.

48. In response to Dr LEUNG Ka-lau's enquiries about the salary, working hours and job prospect of the young employees under the pilot scheme, SLW said that they were required to work 40 hours per week with a monthly salary of more than \$8,000. Upon the successful completion of the part-time diploma course, they could attain the qualification equivalent to Level 4 of the Qualifications Framework. Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Elderly) supplemented that upon satisfactory completion of the part-time diploma course, the employees would be qualified for registration as Health Worker and might further pursue top-up programmes for the qualification of Enrolled Nurse if they met the respective entry requirements for the programmes.

Lump Sum Grant Subvention System

49. Whilst supporting the commitment of an additional recurrent expenditure of about \$470 million under the Lump Sum Grant ("LSG")

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Subvention System in 2014-2015, the Deputy Chairman 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. He said that such information would be useful in enhancing the transparency of deployment of funds and accountability of subvented organizations. SLW replied that over \$100 million would be allocated to NGOs for recruiting and retaining paramedical staff and the remaining funding for strengthening central administrative support, strengthening supervisory support and increasing the provision for "Other Charges". The Administration would provide further information on the detailed breakdown as requested.

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*(Post-meeting note: The requisite information was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2012/13-14(01) dated 8 July 2014.)*

Law Reform Commission Report on Child Custody and Access

50. The Deputy Chairman enquired about the Administration's plan to take forward the recommendations of the Law Reform Commission ("LRC") Report on Child Custody and Access, and the timetable for legislation relating to the introduction of the "parental responsibility model". SLW said that LWB, the Department of Justice and other concerned departments had commenced follow-up work of the LRC Report. Upon working out the detailed legislative and administrative proposals, the Administration would further engage stakeholders and interested parties and consult the Panel before embarking on legislation.

**II. Any other business**

51. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:30 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
19 August 2014