

Panel on Welfare Services

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 7 October 2013)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Provision of infirmary care for elders in a non-hospital setting	13 December 2004	The Administration undertook to provide more details of the tender exercise before the next meeting, including the criteria used in selecting operators to run the trial scheme, justification(s) for inviting private home operators to participate in the exercise, and the reason(s) for setting the unit subsidy for each subsidized infirmary bed in a non-hospital setting at around \$11,000.	The Administration is exploring various options, including upgrading some of the places in subvented residential care homes for the elderly to provide infirmary care. The Administration will report the progress in due course.
2. Assistance to elderly not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA")	8 June 2006	The Administration was requested to – (a) provide a paper setting out the relevant figures to substantiate its saying that a pay-as-you-go retirement protection scheme was not feasible; and (b) consult employees in Hong Kong on whether they were willing to allocate part of their Mandatory Provident Fund contributions, say 50%, to a pool for distribution to the current cohort of elders, on the understanding that they too would receive a monthly sum of some \$2,500 in their old age.	The Administration has launched a new Old Age Living Allowance ("OALA") of \$2,200 per month in April 2013 as an additional form of financial assistance for Hong Kong elderly persons aged 65 or above who have insufficient means for a living and are in need of support. The Administration is conducting a study on

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			retirement protection in Hong Kong.
3. OALA	12 November 2012	The Administration undertook to review OALA one year after its implementation and report the outcome of the review to the Panel.	The Administration will report the outcome of the review in due course.
4. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2013 Policy Address	21 January 2013	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <p>(a) the supply and demand for residential care services and community care services including day care services and home-based care services in the next five years;</p> <p>(b) of the 1 700 new residential care places to be provided up to 2014-2015, the number of places to be provided by private residential care homes ("RCHs") participated in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme and subvented RCHs respectively and their locations;</p> <p>(c) locations of the 11 development projects earmarked for the construction of new RCHs for the elderly;</p> <p>(d) steps to be taken by the Administration to address the problem of inter-generational poverty;</p> <p>(e) new measures to be adopted and new resources to be allocated by the Administration to prevent and</p>	<p>The Administration has provided members with the responses to item (b) vide LC Paper No. CB(2)824/12-13(01) (Chinese version issued on 21 March 2013 ; English version issued on 22 March 2013), item (c) vide LC Paper No. CB(2)432/12-13(01) issued on 3 January 2013, and item (e) vide LC Paper Nos. CB(2)447/12-13(06) and CB(2)620/12-13(15) issued on 8 January and 8 February 2013 respectively. The Administration will provide the rest of the required information in due course.</p>

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		<p>tackle domestic violence so as to live up to its zero-tolerance approach for domestic violence and tie in with the three-pronged strategy;</p> <p>(f) a list of social welfare problems existed in the community in the absence of social welfare planning since mid-1990s;</p> <p>(g) in respect of releasing the labour force of women who could not go to work because they had to take care of their families –</p> <p>(i) whether the Administration would consider extending the service hour of after-school learning support to 7 pm or 8 pm; and</p> <p>(ii) how the core values promulgated by the Family Council would help in this regard and the details on these values; and</p> <p>(h) the outcome of the Administration's discussion with the welfare sector on measures to meet the sector's demand for front-line care staff.</p>	
<p>5. Updates on Child Development Fund ("CDF")</p>	<p>16 April 2013</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on how it would transform the favourable conditions which CDF had helped create for participating children to overcome inter-generational poverty into policies with a view to solving the problem of inter-generational poverty.</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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<p>6. Latest progress on the implementation of the licensing scheme for residential care homes for persons with disabilities ("RCHDs")</p>	<p>16 April 2013</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide the following information by early June 2013 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of subvented and private RCHDs which would cease operation because of non-compliance with the licensing requirements before the expiry of the grace period; the number of wastage of residential care places and the number of residents affected as a result of the closure of these RCHDs; (b) detailed displacement plans for the residents of the RCHDs which had not yet submitted applications for license/certificate of exemption ("CoE"); (c) the status of the applications for licence/CoE being processed by the Administration; and (d) a breakdown of the validity period of CoEs which were issued to RCHDs since the commencement of the Residential Care Home (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613), the number of residents involved in these RCHDs and the reasons for the Administration to issue CoEs instead of licences to RCHDs. 	<p>The Administration has provided the Panel with the requisite information vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1534/12-13(01) on 4 July 2013.</p>

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7. Additional funding for short-term food assistance service ("the service")	21 May 2013	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) provide a breakdown of the number and types of users, including repeated users, of the service between 2008 and 2013;(b) include in its funding proposal to the Finance Committee ("FC") information on service boundary before and after the re-demarcation, the mechanism for invitation of proposals on service provision and operation of the service; and(c) before submitting the relevant funding proposal to FC –<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) critically look into the causes of the persistent increase in the demand for the service with a view to taking measures to tackle the problems;(ii) consider extending the service period from a maximum of six weeks to ten to twelve weeks; and(iii) revisit the need for inviting new proposals on service provision and if such invitation is considered necessary, carefully consider the mode of invitation.	<p>The Administration has included the requisite information in its paper to FC (FCR(2013-14)21) which was discussed at the FC meeting on 21 June 2013.</p>

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8. Guangdong Scheme	10 June 2013	<p>The Administration was requested to provide –</p> <p>(a) detailed information on the International Social Service Hong Kong Branch ("ISS-HK") including its membership and past social services; and</p> <p>(b) the statistics on referrals from the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions to the Social Welfare Department.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
9. Planning and inadequate provision of rehabilitation services for pre-school children	10 June 2013	The Administration was requested to provide information on the number of staff required for working and staff shortfall in each category of the rehabilitation sector as well as the lead time for training the relevant staff.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
10. Medium and long-term social welfare planning	8 July 2013	The Administration was requested to provide information on the needs for the elderly and rehabilitation services on the next five years.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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11. Ways to improve situation of refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers in Hong Kong	22 July 2013	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the number of minor claimants who had been denied access to schooling during their stay in Hong Kong;(b) the average processing time for determination of a claim lodged by a protection claimant and whether it could be shortened; and(c) a detailed breakdown of the expenditure, including the administration fee, for provision of humanitarian assistance to protection claimants through ISS-HK, which amounted to \$203 million in 2012-2013.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.