

Panel on Welfare Services

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 5 May 2015)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
<p>1. Assistance to elderly not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA")</p>	<p>8 June 2006</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(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.</p>	<p>The Administration has launched a new Old Age Living Allowance 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.</p> <p>The Commission on Poverty expects that the public consultation on retirement protection will be launched in the fourth quarter of this year.</p>
<p>2. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home</p>	<p>21 January 2013</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on, among others, –</p> <p>(a) the supply and demand for residential care</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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<p>Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2013 Policy Address</p>		<p>services and community care services including day care services and home-based care services in the next five years;</p> <p>(b) steps to be taken by the Administration to address the problem of inter-generational poverty;</p> <p>(c) a list of social welfare problems existing in the community in the absence of social welfare planning since mid-1990s;</p> <p>(d) in respect of releasing the labour force of women who could not go to work because they had to take care of their families, whether the Administration would consider extending the service hour of after-school learning support to 7 pm or 8 pm; and</p> <p>(e) 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>3. Planning and inadequate provision of rehabilitation services for pre-school children</p>	<p>10 June 2013</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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4. 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 in the next five years.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
5. Ways to improve situation of refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers ("protection claimants") in Hong Kong	22 July 2013	The Administration was requested to provide information on – (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 the International Social Service Hong Kong Branch, which amounted to \$203 million in 2012-2013.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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	13 January 2014	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <p>(a) the number of convicted cases concerning unlawful employment which involved protection claimants; and</p> <p>(b) the practice of neighbouring countries, including Singapore, regarding the provision of assistance to protection claimants.</p>	
6. Shortage of supporting staff (including Programme Workers) in the social welfare sector	13 January 2014	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <p>(a) the number of youth population and the number of Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres by district from 2014 to 2021; and</p> <p>(b) staff establishment of the non-governmental organizations operating under the Lump Sum Grant ("LSG") Subvention System.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
7. Pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly ("CCS Voucher Scheme")	13 January 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on the reasons for the non-participation of eligible elderly persons in the CCS Voucher Scheme.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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	10 November 2014	<p>The Administration was requested to provide –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the interim report of the evaluation study conducted by the Sau Po Centre on Ageing of the University of Hong Kong on the first phase of the Pilot Scheme before June 2015;(b) information on the number of vouchers received by each recognized service provider ("RSP"); and(c) in relation to the 184 participants who had withdrawn from the Pilot Scheme for reason of "no suitable services providers/service packages", information on –<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) the types of services required by these participants;(ii) whether there were RSPs in the districts where these participants were residing; and if so, whether the RSPs concerned were able to provide the services required by these participants; and(iii) whether lack of service quota was a reason for withdrawal of these participants.	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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<p>8. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2014 Policy Address</p>	<p>23 January 2014</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide a paper on its measures to unleash the women workforce with details on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) justifications for setting the upper age limit of children eligible for the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project; and (b) whether it had any plans to reserve space for the provision of child care services in the vicinity of newly built residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs") to encourage women to join the workforce of elderly care services. 	<p>The Administration will provide its response in due course.</p>
<p>9. Support for elderly persons who are in need of dental care</p>	<p>30 June 2014</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide the reasons for not being able to set up government dental clinics in all the 18 districts; (b) provide the report of the strategic review on health care manpower planning and professional development in Hong Kong; and (c) revert to the Panel regarding the suggestion of soliciting help from private dentists to provide dental services for the needy elderly at elderly health centres and government dental clinics outside the normal opening hours. 	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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10. Services and policies relating to family support	30 June 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on the Lam Tin incident happened in early May 2014 and on the Police's review of the handling of the aforesaid incident.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
11. Setting up a new contract RCHE with DCU at Welfare Block of Shek Mun Estate Phase II PRH development, Shatin	8 December 2014	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of subsidized residential care places to be provided in PRH units in the coming five years; (b) which of the seven new contract RCHEs/RCHes with DCUs commencing service from 2014-2015 to 2016-2017 would be located on the ground floor of PRH domestic blocks; and (c) a list of the vacant or idle space/premises in PRH estates, Home Ownership Scheme courts and Food and Environmental Hygiene Department public markets. 	The Administration's response to (a) and (b) was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1266/14-15(01) on 16 April 2015. The Administration will provide its response to (c) in due course.

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12. Progress on the implementation of HCS	12 January 2015	<p>The Administration was requested to provide –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) information on the number of users receiving services from each of the six HCS operators when the regularized HCS Scheme had been implemented for one year; and (b) a paper on the Administration's review of home and community care services for persons with disabilities. 	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
13. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2015 Policy Address	26 January 2015	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a breakdown of the usage rate of Extended Hours Service ("EHS") provided by aided child care centres and kindergarten-cum-child care centres, and by districts; (b) the amount incurred in providing 1 200 EHS places at aided child care centres and kindergarten-cum-child care centres; and (c) the number of places to be provided under the On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services Pilot Scheme. The information should be provided to the Panel by April 2015. 	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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14. Setting up a new contract RCHE in the PRH development at Fo Tan, Shatin Areas 16 & 58D	9 February 2015	The Administration was requested to provide information on stand-alone RCHEs and RCHEs located in PRH development sites under the 12 sites earmarked for the construction of new contract RCHEs and contract RCHEs with DCUs before submitting the relevant funding proposal to the Finance Committee.	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1266/14-15(01) on 16 April 2015.

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<p>15. Review of Disability Allowance ("DA")</p>	<p>9 March 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide information on the number of appeal cases lodged with the Social Security Appeal Board ("SSAB") on DA applications in the past five years, and the number of cases under which SSAB's decisions were different from the original ones; (b) for places outside Hong Kong where applicants of financial assistance for persons with disabilities were required to undergo a means test, advise whether the means test was household-based or individual-based; and (c) suitably update the Panel before its regular meeting in April 2015 on – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) whether the Administration would revise the medical assessment form ("MAF") by removing the reference to "100% loss of earning capacity" and at the same time retaining a DA applicant's condition regarding his or her ability to "work in the original occupation and perform any other kind of work for which he or she is suited" as a criterion for assessing an applicant's "other physical, mental conditions including visceral diseases"; and (ii) the timetable for amending MAF. 	<p>The Administration's response to (a) and (b) was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1306/14-15(01) on 21 April 2015. The Administration will provide its response to (c) in due course.</p>

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16. Promoting active ageing	9 March 2015	The Labour and Welfare Bureau was requested to follow up the blockage of the pathway near the market in Kai Yip Estate by kiosks with the Transport and Housing Bureau so as to ensure a barrier-free access for the elderly residents in Kai Yip Estate.	The Administration advised that there was a neighbourhood elderly centre with premises at two housing blocks at Kai Yip Estate which should be accessible to the elderly residents of the Estate.
17. Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("pilot scheme on RCS voucher")	23 March 2015	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <p>(a) provide the Panel with the consultancy report on the pilot scheme on RCS voucher at the same time when it was submitted to the Elderly Commission ("EC"); and</p> <p>(b) brief the Panel on how EC would take forward the pilot scheme on RCS voucher.</p>	The Administration will provide its response in due course.

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<p>18. Progress of implementation of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses ("Special Scheme")</p>	<p>13 April 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide a breakdown by district of the numbers of places to be provided in each of the 17 development projects for the construction of new contract RCHEs/contract RCHEs with Day Care Units for the Elderly/new Day Care Centres for the Elderly and of those to be provided under the Special Scheme; (b) provide information on the rules and procedures for the provision of subvented and self-financing services under the Special Scheme and the proportion of such services; (c) provide, in table form, the following information – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the numbers of subvented and self-financing places provided by the welfare facilities at each of the sites of – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) the five projects under the Special Scheme (which had entered the implementation stage) upon their completion; and (B) the remaining 58 projects under the Special Scheme upon their completion; 	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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		<p>(ii) the total number of waitlistees for elderly services and rehabilitation services respectively; and</p> <p>(iii) an estimate of the numbers of additional subvented and self-financing service places to be provided under and outside the Special Scheme respectively in the next 10 years;</p> <p>(d) revert to the Panel on whether the Administration would adopt a 6:4 or 8:2 ratio for subvented and self-financing service places for the project of expansion of Haven of Hope Woo Ping Care and Attention Home in Tseung Kwan O under the Special Scheme; and</p> <p>(e) provide a paper to update the Panel every six months on the progress of the projects and the proportion of subvented and self-financing service places under the Special Scheme.</p>	
<p>19. Additional provision for social security recipients</p>	<p>13 April 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on the numbers of CSSA recipients who were paying a rent higher than the maximum rent allowance ("MRA") under the CSSA Scheme before and after the increase of MRA by 6.7% in February 2015 and the launch of the "Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing" programme by the Community Care Fund respectively.</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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