

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. CB(2)2012/15-16

(These minutes have been  
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/WS

**Panel on Welfare Services**

**Minutes of meeting  
held on Monday, 9 May 2016, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Chairman)  
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP  
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH  
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP  
Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu
- Members absent** : Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau  
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

**Public Officers : Item III  
attending**

Mr Donald CHEN, JP  
Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare) 2  
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Ms Carol YIP, JP  
Director of Social Welfare  
Social Welfare Department

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

Ms PANG Kit-ling  
Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Elderly)  
Social Welfare Department

Miss Hannah YIP  
Chief Social Work Officer (Licensing)  
Social Welfare Department

**Items III and IV**

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

**Item IV**

Mr David LEUNG, JP  
Commissioner for Rehabilitation  
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Mr Peter MA  
Principal Executive Officer (Rehabilitation)  
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Mr LAM Bing-chun  
Chief Social Work Officer (Rehabilitation and Medical  
Social Services)<sup>1</sup>  
Social Welfare Department

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

**Staff in attendance** : Ms Catherina YU  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 4  
  
Ms Ada TANG  
Clerical Assistant (2) 4

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**I. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting**  
[LC Paper No. CB(2)1375/15-16(01)]

Members noted that a referral from the Public Complaints Office on policy issues relating to the provision of home care services for ex-mentally ill persons (LC Paper No. CB(2)1375/15-16(01)) had been issued since the last meeting.

**II. Items for discussion at the next meeting**  
[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1411/15-16(01) to (02)]

2. Members noted that the Administration had proposed to discuss at the next meeting scheduled for 13 June 2016 the following items:

- (a) Progress of implementation of Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses; and
- (b) Work progress of the Family Council.

3. Referring to the death case of a five-year old boy with intellectual disability who was poisoned by direct ingestion of crystal methamphetamine, Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that before the tragedy occurred, the multi-disciplinary case conferences had recommended that the boy should be admitted to a home for mentally handicapped children ("HMHC") for his safety. Unfortunately, there was no vacancy in these homes before the tragedy happened. He suggested that the Panel should discuss the inadequacy of children homes and HMHCs as early as practicable. The Chairman said that at the Panel meeting on 14 December 2015, members had agreed to hold a special meeting to discuss the Child Fatality Review Report ("CFR Report"). In this connection, a special meeting had been scheduled for 28 May 2016 tentatively to discuss the mechanism for

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handling abuse cases relating to children from high risk families and follow-up to the CFR Report. Dr Fernando CHEUNG suggested that deputations should be invited to give views at the special meeting. Members agreed.

4. The Chairman sought members' view on rescheduling the next regular meeting scheduled for 11 July 2016 to 21 June 2016 so as to release the time slot for holding the meetings of the Council and the Finance Committee ("FC"), if required, to deal with their unfinished items before the Council's prorogation on 16 July 2016. The Deputy Chairman said that the Panel should reserve some time for discussing matters relating to retirement protection if the Subcommittee on Retirement Protection ("the Subcommittee") could only be activated around end of this legislative session. The Chairman suggested and members agreed that a Saturday in mid/late June 2016 should be reserved for receiving views from deputations on retirement protection if the Subcommittee was unable to follow up the subject matter within this legislative session.

**III. Proposed creation of a supernumerary post of Assistant Director of Social Welfare to strengthen the inspection and monitoring of residential care homes for the elderly and residential care homes for persons with disabilities**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1411/15-16(03), CB(2)1460/15-16(01) and CB(2)1654/15-16(01)]

5. At the invitation of the Chairman, Director of Social Welfare ("DSW") briefed members on the Administration's proposal to create a supernumerary post of Assistant Director of Social Welfare, to be designated as Assistant Director (Licensing and Regulation) ("AD(LR)"), to head a new Licensing and Regulation ("LR") Branch of the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") for strengthening the inspection and monitoring of residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs") and residential care homes for persons with disabilities ("RCHDs"). The post would be created on a time-limited basis from 1 October 2016 or upon FC's approval, whichever was the later, to 31 March 2021.

Records and appeal mechanism in relation to warnings issued to residential care homes

6. In response to Mr POON Siu-ping's enquiry about information on RCHEs with serious irregularities or poor track records, DSW said that the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly ("LORCHE")

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conducted 5 260 inspections to RCHEs in 2015-2016. Whether an RCHE would be regarded as having poor track records would depend on the number of irregularities found or warnings issued in respect of the RCHE in a year. Currently, records of RCHEs which had been successfully prosecuted were published on SWD's website but warnings issued to RCHEs were not made public. The Administration planned to set up a dedicated website on all licensed RCHEs with search functions to facilitate the public's access to information of individual RCHEs, including information about their convictions of offences and warning records. SWD was discussing with the Department of Justice the legal issues involved in publishing the warning records and revamping the warning records system.

7. In response to Mr Alvin YEUNG's enquiry about whether an RCHE could lodge an appeal against a warning issued by SWD, DSW said that the Administration would review the existing system for prosecuting RCHEs and giving warnings to RCHEs. The Administration was considering providing an appeal channel for the RCHEs concerned. Given that warnings issued by SWD would have a bearing on the reputation of the RCHEs concerned, Mr Alvin YEUNG was of the view that the Administration should consider setting up an appeal board comprising members from all walks of life. The RCHEs concerned should also be allowed to make representations during hearings of appeals. DSW responded that the Administration would take into account Mr YEUNG's view in considering the appeal mechanism.

Roles of the proposed new post of Assistant Director (Licensing and Regulation) and the new Licensing and Regulation Branch

8. Mr POON Siu-ping enquired about the number of staff in the new LR Branch if the Administration's proposal to create the AD(LR) post and the 39 time-limited non-directorate posts was approved. DSW responded that taking into account the existing manpower of LORCHE and the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for Persons with Disabilities ("LORCHD"), the new LR Branch would have a total of 121 staff.

9. Mr POON Siu-ping enquired whether the Administration had discussed with representatives of 爭取資助院舍聯席 ("聯席") and responded to the issues raised in its submission which was tabled at the meeting. Mr Albert HO said that many of the measures proposed by the Administration were not concrete. The Administration should have frequent contacts with residents of residential care homes ("RCHs") and their families to collect their views on service quality of RCHs. He doubted whether the creation of the AD(LR) post could solve the problems raised in the submission from 聯席.

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10. DSW responded that SWD had maintained a dialogue with 聯席 and the enhancement measures set out in paragraph 3 of the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)1411/15-16(03)) had addressed some of its concerns. Regarding 聯席's view against the creation of the AD(LR) post, she said that as some of the enhancement measures involved fundamental changes, a dedicated Assistant Director was required to formulate strategies for enhancing the management and service quality of RCHEs and RCHDs as well as conduct an on-going review of the enhancement measures. A dedicated team was also required to implement the measures. She hoped members would appreciate that staff of LORCHE and LORCHD were facing heavy work pressure and additional manpower was necessary. Given that the proposed AD(LR) post was a supernumerary post with a time limit, its retention for a further period, if necessary, would be subject to FC's approval. The Administration would report to members the implementation progress of the enhancement measures six months after the creation of the AD(LR) post.

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11. Taking the view that additional manpower was required for stepping up inspection, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said that the Administration should provide information on the quantity and quality of inspections to RCHs before and after the setting up of the new LR Branch. DSW responded that in respect of RCHEs, 5 260 inspections were conducted, 361 warnings were issued and four cases were successfully prosecuted in 2015-2016. At Mr CHAN Chi-chuen's request, DSW undertook to, before submitting its proposal to the Establishment Subcommittee ("ESC"), provide the number of inspections at RCHs (including the contents, results and effectiveness of these inspections) and SWD's inspection plan which should include the numbers of additional inspections at RCHs and additional staff to be deployed for conducting inspections after the setting up of the new LR Branch.

12. Noting that the enhancement measures mentioned in paragraph 10 above did not cover the review of and enhancement for the operation, management, facilities and service quality of private RCHs which were the core problems of private RCHs, Mr Frederick FUNG questioned about the objectives of creating the AD(LR) post and of setting up the new LR Branch. DSW responded that the respective Codes of Practice for RCHEs and RCHDs set out the principles, procedures, guidelines and standards for the operation, keeping, management or other control of RCHs. They also set out detailed requirements in relation to building and accommodation, fire safety and precautions, floor space, staffing, health and care services, management, infection control, etc.

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13. DSW further said that the proposed enhancement measures were multifarious which covered monitoring and provision of support for RCHs as well as enhancing transparency of RCH operations. These measures included implementing tailor-made training programmes for the sector, increasing the number of audit inspections, publishing information about RCHEs (e.g. manpower provision, fee levels and facilities of RCHE as well as the number of warnings issued to individual RCHEs) on the dedicated website about all licensed RCHEs to facilitate the public to compare different RCHEs and make informed choices.

Monitoring of residential care homes

14. Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether the Administration would step up the monitoring of RCHEs by conducting inspections during night time. DSW responded that some surprise inspections were carried out outside office hours, including during weekends.

15. Mr YIU Si-wing took the view that the major role of AD(LR) should be formulating policies for elderly care services. He expressed grave concern that if RCHEs were vigorously monitored after the creation of the AD(LR) post, RCHEs which were unable to comply fully with the licensing requirements might be closed down, rendering a regression of the industry.

16. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said that the Administration should find out the reasons why some private RCHs were unable to comply with the requirements. Some operators of private RHCs who wished to improve service quality might not be able to do so as they did not have the required resources or skills. Instead of penalizing these operators and driving them away from the industry, the Administration should provide them with the necessary assistance.

17. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung said that in the light of ageing population, it was important to enhance the service quality of private RCHEs to meet the growing demand for residential care services. He took the view that stepping up monitoring of RCHEs did not necessarily result in improvement in their service quality. To enhance service quality of private RCHEs, the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong considered that the Administration should draw up concrete measures to assist private RCHEs in increasing manpower provision and improving facilities.

18. DSW responded that the Administration had no intention to frustrate the development of the private RCHE sector. The Administration had

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briefed both the private and subvented RCHE sectors on the proposed enhancement measures and the sectors were willing to make efforts to enhance service quality. In addition to stepping up inspection to RCHEs, the Administration would help them enhance the capability of their staff and management skills of their operators/managers through tailor-made training programmes. The Administration was considering providing on-site supervision to assist RCHEs in enhancing their facilities, guidelines, records, etc. The Administration hoped to balance the monitoring and development of RCHEs.

19. Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that elderly persons admitted to RCHEs should be provided with quality service but there were frequent occurrence of elder abuse cases in RCHEs. Members of the public were worried about the poor service quality of private RCHEs. While the Administration had proposed a 50% increase in manpower to strengthen the inspection and monitoring of RCHEs, he did not see any commitments of the Administration to rectify the serious problems of private RCHEs. In his view, many of the enhancement measures were empty talks, e.g. the Administration would only review but not make any concrete improvements to the Code of Practice for RCHEs. In his view, the enhancement measures were not new initiatives. The Administration had been implementing these measures with the existing manpower and should be able to continue to do so without the need for creating additional posts.

20. DSW responded that in addition to introducing new initiatives such as enhancing the management skills of operators/managers, SWD would strengthen its existing measures. SWD would review the Code of Practice for RCHEs thoroughly and identify improvement areas. The Administration would brief members on the findings of the review and seek members' view on its proposed improvements, if any, to the Code of Practice. At the Chairman's request, DSW undertook to provide information on the direction of and the timetable for the review of the Code of Practice for RCHEs and that for RCHDs.

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21. Noting from the submission of 聯席 that the Administration was unwilling to consider its request for increasing the participation of the public in the Service Quality Group Scheme ("the SQG Scheme"), Mr Albert HO and the Deputy Chairman took the view that the Administration should accede to 聯席's request. The Deputy Chairman said that representatives from concern groups should be appointed as members of SQG and RCHs should be required to sign the "Quality Service Charter". To strengthen monitoring of RCHs and facilitate service quality enhancement, she considered it necessary to make public the names of RCHEs and RCHDs with poor track records.



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22. Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services) responded that starting from April 2016, the SQG Scheme had been extended to the whole territory with all types of RCHes and all licensed RCHDs covered. Family members of residents of RCHes and RCHDs were welcomed to join the SQG Scheme to monitor these homes. DSW supplemented that members of SQG would conduct unannounced visits to the RCHes and RCHDs participating in the Scheme for assessing their facilities and service provision, receiving and collecting views from residents, their relatives and/or home staff, as well as providing the home operators with feedback on their service delivery. The Administration would try to engage more local leaders, service users and their family members in the SQG Scheme. As regards the "Quality Service Charter", SWD's Tai Po and North District Coordinating Committee on Elderly Service organized a ceremony to launch the "Elderly Care Charter" in 2015. SWD planned to organize relevant activities throughout the territory in 2016-2017.

23. Mr Frederick FUNG said that if the primary objective of private RCHs was to make profit, their residents would not receive quality service. As such, the Administration should not allow operators of private RCHs to run their RCHs with such a primary objective. DSW responded that the Administration recognized the importance of enabling residents of RCHs to live with quality and dignity. As such, the professional conduct of RCH staff was one of the directions for the review of the Code of Practice.

24. The Chairman opined that some of the queries raised in the submission of 聯席 and another submission he received from the industry could be avoided if the Administration had explained clearly its enhancement measures to the stakeholders. He took the view that communications between the Administration and the industry should be strengthened to facilitate the enhancement of service quality of RCHs. The Administration should disseminate the message to stakeholders that, in addition to implementing monitoring measures, the new LR Branch would do groundwork for improving the respective Codes of Practice for RCHes and RCHDs and amending the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) and Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613).

25. Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that stepping up inspection could only address some but not all problems of private RCHes. Given that the proposed new LR Branch would be staffed by one directorate post and 39 non-directorate post, it should do a lot more than stepping up inspections. As the proposed enhancement measures were not built on legal premise, he doubted whether RCHs could improve their service quality. He said that the

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Administration should provide a response to the submission of 聯席 before submitting its proposal to ESC. The Chairman suggested that the Administration should hold a meeting with 聯席 and revert to the Panel. While supporting the Administration's staffing proposal in principle, the Deputy Chairman said that the Administration should provide a response to her suggestions of making public the names of RCHEs and RCHDs with poor track records, requiring RCHEs and RCHDs to sign the "Quality Service Charter" and appointing representatives from concern groups as members of SQG before submitting the staffing proposal to ESC. DSW undertook to provide the required information.

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Manpower supply for the care service sector

26. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung opined that the service quality problem of some private RCHs could not be resolved merely by stepping up inspection. The Administration should address the crux of the problem, i.e. manpower shortage and insufficient resources faced by many private RCHs, and adopt a multi-pronged strategy for enhancing their service quality.

27. DSW responded that both private and subvented RCHs were subject to the same monitoring mechanism. In addition to strengthening inspection and monitoring of RCHs, the Administration would help enhance the quality and attitude of care workers.

28. In response to Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung's enquiry about how the Administration would address manpower shortage of RCHs, DSW said that the Administration had launched the "first-hire-then-train" pilot project and the Navigation Scheme for Young Persons in Care Services to encourage young people to join the care service sector. The Master programmes in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy would continue to be implemented. SWD had collaborated with the Hospital Authority ("HA") in offering the enrolled nurse training programme since 2006. SWD fully subsidized the tuition fees for the whole programme, provided that trainees of the programme met the requirement of working in the welfare sector for a continuous period of no less than two years after satisfactory completion of training.

29. In response to the Chairman's invitation of views, members present supported in principle the submission of the funding proposal to ESC for consideration.

*(Post meeting note: The Administration's response to the required information under this discussion item had been issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1654/15-16(01) on 6 June 2016.)*

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**IV. Ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1411/15-16(04) to (05), CB(2)1460/15-16(02), CB(2)1539/15-16(01) and CB(2)1892/15-16(01)]

30. At the invitation of the Chairman, Commissioner for Rehabilitation ("C for R") briefed members on the study conducted by the Administration on ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities ("the Study") and the enhancement measures to be implemented to strengthen the support for ageing users of rehabilitation services.

Pilot scheme on living allowance for eligible carers of persons with disabilities

31. In response to the call of Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung and the Deputy Chairman for an early implementation of the pilot scheme on living allowance for eligible carers of persons with disabilities ("the Pilot Scheme") under the Community Care Fund ("CCF"), C for R said that the Administration planned to invite applications under the Pilot Scheme in October 2016, in view of the lead time required for the necessary preparatory work. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung suggested that the Administration should consider accepting applications while the preparatory work was in progress so as to expedite the implementation of the Pilot Scheme.

32. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung said that the amount of allowance under the Pilot Scheme should be sufficient for a needy family to engage a helper to take care of a member with disabilities. C for R responded that the rate of allowance under the Pilot Scheme would be similar to that under the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of the Elderly Persons from Low Income Families ("Pilot Scheme on Carers of the Elderly") (i.e. \$2,000 a month). Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung took the view that with such a low rate of allowance, carers of persons with intellectual disabilities were unable to engage someone to take their place when they wanted a short break. The Deputy Chairman shared the view that the amount of carer allowance was too low. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung and the Deputy Chairman urged the Administration to consider increasing the amount of allowance.

*(At 12:35 pm the Chairman extended the meeting to end at 1:15 pm with the consent of all members present.)*

33. Dr Helena WONG opined that the income requirements for programmes under CCF were stringent. Expressing concern that many carers might not be able to meet the income requirements under the Pilot Scheme, she said that the Pilot Scheme should not be funded by CCF so that more needy carers could benefit.

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34. Mr Frederick FUNG said that if carers under the Pilot Scheme were subject to income assessments, the Administration should not peg the rate of allowance under the Pilot Scheme to that under the Pilot Scheme on Carers of the Elderly. Given that carers of persons with disabilities had somewhat alleviated the Administration's financial burden of providing support for persons with disabilities and had lost some income as they were unable to work full-time or could only work part-time, different tiers of income limit should be set under the Pilot Scheme and carers with lower income should receive a higher allowance.

35. C for R responded that implementing the proposed Pilot Scheme under CCF would allow the Administration to explore the feasibility and effectiveness of the Scheme during the pilot period and consider whether it should be regularized in future. He took note of the suggestion of setting different tiers of income limit for the Pilot Scheme.

Strengthening support services for persons with intellectual disabilities

36. Dr Helena WONG enquired whether respite service or home-based care service would be available so as to enable carers to take a short break when needed. She also sought information on oral health care services provided by RCHs for persons with intellectual disabilities or elderly persons with dementia. C for R elaborated the Administration's proposed oral health care services provided for persons with intellectual disabilities and support for their parents and carers regarding health education and healthcare training which were set out in paragraphs 8 and 13 of the Administration's paper respectively (LC Paper No. CB(2)1411/15-16(04)).

37. Mr POON Siu-ping asked when the result of the study on HA collaboration programme to provide visiting specialist medical services for intellectually disabled residents with chronic illnesses would be available. C for R responded that HA had committed to the implementation of the collaboration programme as a long term initiative. SWD would liaise with HA on the implementation timetable.

38. Noting that the Administration would increase the recurrent provision for Visiting Medical Practitioner Scheme ("VMPS"), Mr POON Siu-ping expressed concern about whether there would be adequate medical staff to cope with the additional services under VMPS. Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services) ("ADSW(R&MSS)") responded that the Administration would subsidize operators of RCHDs to purchase services from private doctors to provide primary medical care and support for the residents with intellectual disabilities of subvented RCHDs.

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The increased annual recurrent provision for VMPS would enable a resident of a subvented RCHD to receive about seven medical consultations a year, assuming the average cost per consultation per person was \$350.

39. The Deputy Chairman opined that the recurrent provisions for both VMPS and ageing users of rehabilitation services to go out for medical consultation were inadequate to meet the service demand. C for R responded that the Administration had increased the current provision for VMPS two to three years ago. Starting from 2016-2017, the annual recurrent provision for VMPS would be increased by about 60%. The Administration would keep in view the ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities and implement other measures when necessary.

40. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung enquired about the reasons why the increase for the recurrent provision for strengthening relevant rehabilitation services in 2016-2017 was smaller than those in 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016. C for R responded that the increase for the recurrent provision in 2016-2017 only reflected the provisions for the enhancement measures which were ready for implementation. The provisions for the enhancement measures which were still at the planning stage had not yet been finalized.

41. In response to Mr POON Siu-ping's enquiry about the allocation of the 73 newly procured centre buses, ADSW(R&MSS) said that having regard to the ageing of users/residents of day activity centres ("DACs") cum hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons and to respond to the requests of family members of these users/residents, 69 buses would be provided for these DACs cum hostels. The remaining four new buses would be provided for community rehabilitation day centres.

42. Referring to the submission from User of Kwai Chung District Support Centre ("the deputation") (which was tabled at the meeting and issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1460/15-16(02) on 10 May 2016), Mr Frederick FUNG shared the deputation's views that the Administration should allocate more resources to the provision of support services for persons with intellectual disabilities at district level and trainees of a DAC should be allowed to participate in activities organized by district support centres for persons with disabilities ("DSCs"). ADSW(R&MSS) responded that in 2014-2015, two additional social workers were provided for each of the 16 DSCs and the Administration would keep in view the service demand for DSCs. Trainees of DACs could use support services provided by Social and Recreational Centres for the Disabled and DSCs. The Deputy Chairman said that the Administration should allocate more resources for organizing activities in the community for persons with intellectual disabilities.

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Reviewing service delivery modes

43. Dr Fernando CHEUNG opined that the proposed enhancements to strengthen the support for ageing users of rehabilitation services were piecemeal measures and were disproportionate to the service needs. For instance, there were around 60 000 to 80 000 persons with intellectual disabilities in the community but the quota under the Pilot Scheme was only 2 000 carers. He also took the view that the existing service delivery modes had not taken into account service needs of persons with intellectual disabilities in different age groups. Given that aged persons with intellectual disabilities required a higher level of care and their service needs varied with the age groups, he called on the Administration to examine the service delivery modes in a holistic manner and provide services according to users' needs.

44. C for R responded that as many respondents to the survey under the Study were concerned about the medical care needs of ageing persons with intellectual disabilities, the Working Group on Ageing of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities ("the Working Group") had recommended to, inter alia, strengthen the provision of information on health and disease prevention for persons with intellectual disabilities. ADSW(R&MSS) explained the review of service delivery modes and development of innovative service modes was set out in paragraph 11 of the Administration's paper. He said that some rehabilitation service organizations were trying out the provision of day care services for ageing service users with intellectual disabilities. The Administration was discussing with rehabilitation service organizations how to facilitate the care of ageing service users in DACs and would keep in view the effectiveness of the service delivery modes.

45. In response to Dr Fernando CHEUNG's concern about the low unit cost under the Extended Care Programme ("ECP") and the Work Extension Programme ("WEP"), ADSW(R&MSS) said that the Administration had increased the resources for ECP and WEP for the past few years and the unit costs of these programmes had been raised and were higher than the normal level.

46. Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that two tragedies occurred in January and April 2016 in which two intellectually disabled persons had stayed with the corpses of their mothers at home for several days. He asked whether the enhancement measures would help prevent recurrence of these tragedies. Expressing deep sadness about the tragedies, ADSW(R&MSS) said that while the Working Group's recommendations sought to strengthen support for ageing service users, the Administration would continue to review the existing district support services to better meet the users' needs.

Survey on persons with intellectual disabilities

47. Mr TANG Ka-piu expressed concern about whether the facilities and manpower of hostels for persons with intellectual disabilities could meet the care needs of ageing service users. He also worried about the support for mildly mentally handicapped persons and autistic persons when their parents or carers had passed away. In this connection, he sought information on the number of persons with intellectual disabilities who were living with their family members. ADSW(R&MSS) responded that it was difficult to obtain the required information and collect data on population of persons with intellectual disabilities in Hong Kong. In the thematic report on Persons with Disabilities and Chronic Diseases in Hong Kong ("the thematic report") published by the Census and Statistics Department ("C&SD") in 2015, the total number of persons with intellectual disabilities in Hong Kong was estimated to be in the region of 71 000 to 101 000. The Administration would study how collection of relevant data could be improved. He further said that the Administration had launched new support services at district level (e.g. home-based occupational therapy/physiotherapy services, nursing services and case management service) for ageing persons with intellectual disabilities who were living in the community. The Administration would explore how these services could be provided for more persons with disabilities.

48. Mr TANG Ka-piu said that the Administration should consider conducting a survey, in collaboration with rehabilitation service organizations, on the number of persons with intellectual disabilities in the community. C for R responded that he noted that C&SD had pointed out in the aforementioned thematic report that there was strong indication of under-estimation in respect of the number of persons with intellectual disabilities residing in households as derived from findings of the household survey and that C&SD explained in the thematic report the difficulty in collecting such data. In response to the Chairman's suggestion of making use of the data in registration cards for persons with disabilities ("registration cards") to obtain information about persons with intellectual disabilities, C for R said that the Administration would study if the types of data collected for the issue of registration cards were relevant for the purpose. Mr TANG Ka-piu requested the Administration to provide information on the number of persons with intellectual disabilities who were using services provided by DSCs and whether these service users were living with their family members.

Long-term service planning for ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities

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49. The Chairman said that the Administration should have implemented the enhancement measures without waiting for the findings of the Study. He expressed disappointment that the Administration had not proposed any policy changes to address ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities. He urged the Administration to project the trend of ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities, adjust existing policies and draw up long-term service provision plan for aged persons with intellectual disabilities. He also requested the Administration to extend the Dementia Supplement, which was currently provided for RCHEs with residents who were suffering from dementia and were aged 60 or above, to persons with intellectual disabilities who were using subsidized community care services ("CCS") and aged below 60. ADSW(R&MSS) responded that the Administration would study the provision of Dementia Supplement for users of CCS. The Chairman suggested that the Panel of the sixth Legislative Council should follow up matters in relation to ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities.

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50. The Chairman said that by reading the summary of the Working Group's recommendations alone, he had no idea about the provision and development of services for ageing persons with intellectual disabilities in the next 10 to 20 years. He requested the Administration to provide the Panel with a copy of the Report and upload the Report onto the website of the Labour and Welfare Bureau as early as possible. C for R undertook to do so.

*(Post meeting note: The Administration's response was provided to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1892/15-16(01) on 8 July 2016.)*

**V. Any other business**

51. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:16 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
31 August 2016