

Panel on Welfare Services

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 5 February 2016)

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 ("MPF") 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 launched the public consultation on retirement protection on 22 December 2015.</p>
<p>2. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief</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 services and community care services ("CCS")</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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Executive's 2013 Policy Address		<p>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>	
3. 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.
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.

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5. Ways to improve situation of refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers ("protection claimants") 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 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the number of convicted cases concerning unlawful employment which involved protection claimants; and(b) the practice of neighbouring countries, including Singapore, regarding the provision of assistance to protection claimants.	
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> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the number of youth population and the number of Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres by district from 2014 to 2021; and(b) staff establishment of the non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") operating under the Lump Sum Grant ("LSG") Subvention System.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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<p>7. 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>8. 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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9. 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.
10. Progress on the implementation of HCS	12 January 2015	<p>The Administration was requested to provide –</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(b) a paper on the Administration's review of home and CCS for persons with disabilities.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
11. 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> <p>(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; and</p> <p>(b) the amount incurred in providing 1 200 EHS places at aided child care centres and kindergarten-cum-child care centres.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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12. Review of Disability Allowance ("DA")	9 March 2015	<p>The Administration was requested to suitably update the Panel on –</p> <p>(a) 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</p> <p>(b) the timetable for amending MAF.</p>	The Administration will provide its response in due course.
13. 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>14. 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>15. Salary adjustment arrangements for staff in NGOs receiving LSG subvention</p>	<p>11 May 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on the contribution for MPF by each and every NGO receiving LSG subvention.</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>
<p>16. Setting up social welfare facilities (excluding welfare blocks) in public housing premises</p>	<p>11 May 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide –</p> <p>(a) information on the measures adopted by the Administration to convert premises of the Housing Authority (e.g. parking spaces or kindergartens)</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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		<p>into welfare facilities;</p> <p>(b) examples of converting domestic units located on the lower floors of public rental housing ("PRH") blocks into welfare facilities; and</p> <p>(c) detailed information on the planning criteria and process for the provision of welfare facilities in PRH developments.</p>	
<p>17. Issues relating to welfare of refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers</p>	<p>8 June 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <p>(a) provide a list of food items which were not covered by food coupons;</p> <p>(b) advise whether there were cases involving an unreasonable number of non-refoulement claimants using the same residential address;</p> <p>(c) check whether the number of non-refoulement claimants who took up illegal employment in Hong Kong before they made a non-refoulement claim would be available; and</p> <p>(d) provide information on the time required for an illegal immigrant in detention to obtain a recognizance, and the treatment of illegal immigrants in detention, such as conditions of their living environment and meal arrangement, etc.</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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18. Issues relating to service quality and monitoring of private residential care homes	23 July 2015	The Administration was requested to ask the Secretary for Labour and Welfare to relay to the Chief Executive members' requests for earmarking sites in PRH development projects for construction of RCHEs and making the provision of RCHEs a land sale condition.	The Administration will follow up as appropriate.
19. The situation of lead in drinking water in child care centres and residential care homes and the follow-up actions by the Administration	9 November 2015	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the lead level of each of the water sample taken from the 78 welfare units for which water sampling tests had been completed; (b) guidelines provided for welfare units by the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") on the use of wall-mounted kettles, water sampling procedures, reducing lead exposure and maintaining water safety; (c) the number of welfare units which had followed the guidelines mentioned in (b) above; and (d) a comparison of the test results of samples of water stored overnight inside wall-mounted kettles and for samples which were taken after running water at a tap for two to five minutes from the 78 welfare units mentioned in (a) above. 	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
20. The proposed legislation to implement the Law	14 December 2015	The Administration was requested to provide information on –	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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<p>Reform Commission Report on Child Custody and Access</p>		<p>(a) the increase in the number of court cases on issues about children of divorced parents;</p> <p>(b) the increase in the number of cases involving parents who had abused the right to participate in their children's lives and deliberately obstructed or delayed the making of major decisions relating to their children; and</p> <p>(c) the effectiveness of different types of support services provided by the Administration in reducing the aforesaid court cases and abuse cases.</p>	
<p>21. Child Fatality Review Report</p>	<p>14 December 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information regarding whether improvements had been made to the following areas after the occurrence of several serious family tragedies in or after 2004 –</p> <p>(a) provision of contact phone numbers of social workers and refuge centres for families-at-risk;</p> <p>(b) enhancement of the 24-hour hotline service which provided crisis intervention and emotional support for people facing family crisis;</p> <p>(c) follow-up visits by medical social workers to families-at-risk with members suffering from serious mental illness;</p> <p>(d) provision of guidelines for schools to handle students suffering from mental illness; and</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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		<p>(e) provide responses to the recommendations made in the first and second Child Fatality Review Reports and the actions taken by the Administration in response to the recommendations.</p>	
<p>22. Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("CCS Voucher Scheme") (Second Phase)</p>	<p>11 January 2016</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on the following before the special meeting of the Panel scheduled for 6 February 2016 –</p> <p>(a) the composition, staff establishment (including the number of professional staff) and functions of the Centralized Team which was set up under SWD;</p> <p>(b) future development of and the Centralized Team's involvement in case management;</p> <p>(c) in addition to the requirement of the 12-month proven experience in providing CCS for the elderly, whether the Administration would impose other requirements on private organizations for becoming recognized service providers ("RSPs");</p> <p>(d) code of practice and monitoring mechanism for RSPs;</p> <p>(e) comparing with the First Phase of the CCS Voucher Scheme, additional services provided under the Second Phase; and</p> <p>(f) number of unannounced visits and random checks</p>	<p>The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)781/15-16(01) on 3 February 2016.</p>

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		conducted by SWD in the First Phase of the CCS Voucher Scheme, number of RSPs involved in and the findings of these visits and checks.	
23. Setting up a new contract RCHE at the Social Welfare Facilities Block of the PRH development at North West Kowloon Reclamation Area Site 6, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon ("the Project")	11 January 2016	The Administration was requested to provide – (a) the layout plan of the Project; (b) the usage of the site where the reprovisioned Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre was originally located; and (c) the ratio of subsidized to non-subsidized residential care places under the Project in its funding proposal to be submitted to the Finance Committee.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
24. Salary adjustment arrangement for staff in NGOs receiving LSG subvention and the progress of the implementation of the Best Practice Manual	11 January 2016	The Administration was requested to provide a list of NGOs receiving LSG subvention which did not provide backpay for staff.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.