

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 8 June 2016)

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Progress of implementation of Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses

The Administration briefed the Panel in February 2014 on the implementation of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses ("Special Scheme") and obtained the Finance Committee's approval of its proposal to transfer \$10 billion to the Lotteries Fund to ensure the availability of sufficient resources to implement the feasible projects under the Special Scheme. The Administration updated the Panel on the implementation progress of the Special Scheme on 13 April 2015. Hon TANG Ka-piu requested the Administration to provide a paper to update the Panel every six months on the progress of the Special Scheme.

13 June 2016

The Administration will report on the latest position of the implementation of the Special Scheme after the last progress report to the Panel on 13 April 2015.

2. Work progress of the Family Council

Item proposed by Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che and Hon CHAN Yuen-han.

13 June 2016

The Home Affairs Bureau will brief the Panel on the subject at its meeting on 13 June 2016.

3. Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly

The Administration reported on the progress of the Elderly Commission's feasibility study on the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("RCS Voucher Scheme") at the Panel meetings on 9 February, 23 March and 28 March 2015. Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the Panel follow up on the subject matter at a Panel meeting.

21 June 2016

The Administration will brief the Panel on the RCS Voucher Scheme.

4. Elderly care policy

The Panel acceded to Prof Hon Joseph LEE's request for holding a joint meeting with the Panel on Health Services in the 2015-2016 session to discuss the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) with a view to improving the quality of these residential care homes.

2nd quarter of 2016

5. Residential care homes for the elderly development on a site at Lam Tei, Tuen Mun

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

6. Setting up a hostel for severely mentally handicapped persons cum day activity centre, an hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons and a hostel for severely physically handicapped persons cum an integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre at the public housing development site at Shatin Area 52 (Shui Chuen O)

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

7. Charitable fund-raising activities

On 6 December 2013, Law Reform Commission ("LRC") released its report on charities, which put forward a number of recommendations including those on monitoring charitable fund-raising activities. The Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") is responsible for formulating the Administration's responses to the report.

To be decided

The Administration's responses and actions with regard to LRC reports are reported to the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services ("AJLS Panel"). HAB is planning to report progress to the AJLS Panel later when the responses are ready.

8. Exploring a way out for young people in respect of welfare, education and employment, etc. under deep-rooted social conflicts in light of the Mongkok Riot occurred on 8 February 2016

At its meeting on 15 February 2016, the Panel agreed to explore holding a special meeting to discuss "Exploring a way out for young people in respect of welfare, education and employment, etc. under deep-rooted social conflicts in light of the Mongkok Riot occurred on 8 February 2016".

To be decided

9. Setting up an integrated welfare service complex in the vacant school premises in Sai Kung

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

10. Setting up an integrated welfare service complex in the school premises in Tuen Mun

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

Proposed timing for discussion

- 11. Setting up an hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons, an integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre and an integrated children and youth services centre in the Comprehensive Development Area development at Yau Tong Bay**

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

- 12. Setting up a new Special Child Care Centre cum Early Education and Training Centre at the public rental housing development in Lei Yue Mun Phase 3, Kowloon**

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

- 13. Setting up an integrated welfare service complex in a set of vacant school premises in Tai Po**

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

- 14. Infirmiry care in non-hospital setting**

The Administration consulted the Panel in December 2004 on a proposal to launch a trial scheme to provide infirmiry care places for medically stable elders in a non-hospital setting. Various options are being explored, including upgrading some of the places in subvented RCHes to provide infirmiry care. The Administration will report the progress in due course.

To be decided

- 15. Visiting Pharmacist Scheme**

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

16. Provision of barrier-free access and facilities for persons with disabilities

The Subcommittee on Improving Barrier Free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities submitted its report (LC Paper No. CB(2)2065/11-12) to the Panel in May 2012 and recommended, inter alia, that the Panel should follow up with the Administration on the matter in the Fifth Legislative Council.

To be decided

Retrofitting programmes for upgrading the barrier-free facilities at Government and Housing Authority ("HA") premises had been completed by 30 June 2014. The progress report (LC Paper No. CB(2)93/14-15(01)) was submitted to the Panel on 23 October 2014 and uploaded to the Labour and Welfare Bureau's website for public information.

The Administration will continue to enhance the barrier-free facilities in Government and HA premises and facilities and take forward any additional proposals having regard to views and suggestions of stakeholders in accordance with the established mechanism. The Administration will also continue to work closely with the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, the rehabilitation sector and the community in building a barrier-free and inclusive society.

Retrofitting of barrier-free access facilities for grade-separated walkways is covered in the Report No. 66 of the Director of Audit on the results of value for money audit-April 2016 presented to the Council on 20 April 2016.

17. Provision of welfare service premises for the elderly and enhancement of facilities therein

Item proposed by Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che.

To be decided

18. Social welfare planning

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the Panel should discuss social welfare planning.

To be decided

The Panel discussed medium and long-term social welfare planning at its meetings on 19 February, 26 March and 8 July 2013. Members suggested that the Panel should discuss with the Administration progress of the subject matter as soon as possible.

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che has suggested that the Panel discuss planning for rehabilitation services.

19. Proposal for formation of a subcommittee on issues relating to welfare of people with disabilities

Item proposed by Hon CHAN Yuen-han at the Panel meeting on 12 November 2012. In deciding that the Panel would receive views from deputations on review of the system for processing applications for DA at the regular meeting to be held in December 2013, Hon CHAN Yuen-han suggested that the proposal for formation of a subcommittee on issues related to welfare of persons with disabilities should be included in the list of outstanding items for discussion by the Panel.

To be decided

20. Provision of child care services and after-school care services

In its submission to the Panel (LC Paper No. CB(2)601/12-13(01)), Hong Kong Women Workers' Association requests the Panel to discuss, as soon as possible, improving the provision of child care services and after-school care services.

To be decided

Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested on 20 January 2014 (LC Paper No. CB(2)748/13-14(01)) that the Panel fix a date for discussing the subject and receiving views from deputations. She has requested the Panel to deal with the subject as soon as possible.

The subject was covered in the discussion of "Measures to unleash labour force in families for increasing the grassroots' income" by the former Subcommittee on Poverty at its meeting on 28 April 2015. Apart from meeting with deputations and the Administration, the Subcommittee had also invited members of the Panel to join the discussion at that meeting.

21. Manpower of paramedical and supporting staff in the social welfare sector

In discussing the shortage of supporting staff (including Programme Workers) in the social welfare sector at the Panel meeting on 13 January 2014, the Panel passed a motion urging the Administration to, among others, submit a report on matters related to Programme Workers to the Panel within six months. The report was forwarded to members on 31 July 2014 (LC Paper No. CB(2)2162/13-14(01)).

To be decided

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che has requested that the manpower situation of paramedical and supporting staff in the social welfare sector be discussed at a Panel meeting.

Proposed timing for discussion

22. Review of Old Age Living Allowance

Item proposed by Hon LEUNG Che-cheung.

To be decided

The Administration has undertaken to review the Old Age Living Allowance one year after its implementation and report the outcome of the review to the Panel.

23. Targets for provision of hostels for mentally handicapped persons

Hon CHAN Yuen-han suggested that the Panel consider discussing the subject of setting targets for the provision of hostels for mentally handicapped persons, e.g. setting a target waiting time and a specific percentage of the total area of a new public housing project for such provision.

To be decided

24. Setting up social welfare facilities (excluding welfare blocks) in public housing premises

The Panel discussed the captioned subject at its meeting on 11 May 2015. Hon Frederick FUNG suggested that the subject be further discussed at a Panel meeting. Representatives of the Development Bureau and Planning Department should also be invited for the discussion.

To be decided

25. Issues relating to welfare of refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers and proposed legislative amendments to the unified screening mechanism for non-refoulement claimants

Item proposed by Hon CHAN Yuen-han. She suggested that the Panel hold a joint meeting with the Panel on Security to discuss the subject matter with the Administration.

To be decided

Proposed timing for discussion

26. Community care support for persons suffering from dementia and their carers

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG.

To be decided

27. Review of mental health services - welfare-related issues

Item proposed by Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che.

To be decided

28. Community care and support services for persons with disabilities

The Panel has acceded to Hon Fernando CHEUNG's request (LC Paper No. CB(2)401/15-16(02)) for discussion of issues relating to community care and support services for persons with disabilities.

To be decided

29. Enforcement agencies' procedures for dealing with persons with disabilities or persons with special needs (including mentally incapacitated persons) and support provided under the social welfare system for the above persons on law-related matters

The Panel discussed the captioned subject at its meeting on 13 June 2015. Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the subject matter be further discussed at a Panel meeting.

To be decided

30. Women-related issues (e.g. measures to unleash women workforce, female employees receiving less pay than male employees for equal work, long working hours, etc.)

Item proposed by Hon CHAN Yuen-han.

To be decided

Proposed timing for discussion

31. Review of Disability Allowance and the system for processing application thereof

The subject was discussed at a special meeting of the Panel on 3 May 2016. The Panel has suggested that the subject should be revisited in the Sixth LegCo.

To be decided

32. Mechanism for handling abuse cases relating to children from high risk families

The subject was discussed at the special meeting of the Panel on 28 May 2016. The Panel has suggested that the subject should be revisited in the Sixth LegCo.

To be decided