

立法會
Legislative Council

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Panel on Welfare Services

**Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the
Future Development of Elderly Services Schemes**

**Minutes of the fourth meeting
held on Monday, 25 April 2016, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Chairman)
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Member absent : Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Member attending : Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

Public Officers attending : Item I

Mr Steve TSE
Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare
(Special Duties)
Labour and Welfare Bureau

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

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

Dr Christina MAW
Chief Manager (Primary and Community Services)
Hospital Authority

Dr Linda YU
Deputizing Chief Manager (Integrated Care Program)
Hospital Authority

**Attendance by : Item I
invitation**

智障人士老齡化關注組

Mr YIP Kie-chun

Elderly Community Care Services Concern Group

Ms Rita LAM
Member

Christian Family Service Centre

Ms TONG Choi-ying
Programme Director (Home and Community Care)

Ms HSU Kok-man

爭取資助院舍聯席

Miss FUNG Siu-yin

The Hong Kong Society for the Blind

Miss LI Po-ling

Hong Kong Parkinson's Disease Association

Mr Benie CHENG Chik-si
執委(副財政)

Rainbow of Hong Kong

TOMMYjai
Executive Officer

Rainbow Action

SHAM Tsz-kit
Spokesperson

Association for Transgender Rights

八爪女士
Executive Officer

Gay & Grey

Shmily
Volunteer

Women Coalition of HKSAR

Wai Wai
Spokesperson

Chosen Power (People First Hong Kong)

Ms AU Yim-fong
Support Person

認知障礙症照顧聯盟

Ms May CHEUNG
主席

Out & Vote

Mr LEE Tak-hung
Spokesperson

Concerning Home Care Service Alliance

Miss LAU Oi-lam

Working Group on Dementia Care Service, HKCSS

Miss WONG Chui-yan
Convenor

Mr TSANG Kar-kin

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Ms LAW Lam
Officer (Family & Community Service)

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

Staff in attendance : Ms Rita LAI
Senior Council Secretary (2) 1

Miss Maggie CHIU
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

Ms Ada TANG
Clerical Assistant (2) 4

Action

- I. Provision of services for elderly persons with special needs**
[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1336/15-16(01) to (04), CB(2)1353/15-16(01)]
and CB(2)1366/15-16(01) to (08)

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. The Subcommittee received oral representations from 19 deputations/individuals attending the meeting.

Action

II. Date of next meeting and item(s) for discussion
[LC Paper No. CB(2)669/15-16(01)]

3. Members noted that the next meeting of the Subcommittee would be held on 17 May 2016 to receive views from the public on sustainable financing for elderly services.

III. Any other business

4. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:06 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
17 August 2016

**Proceedings of the fourth meeting of the
Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the
Future Development of Elderly Services Schemes
on Monday, 25 April 2016, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
000853 - 000952	Chairman	Opening remarks	
000953 - 001711	Chairman Admin	Briefing by the Administration on the current provision of services for the following groups of elderly persons: elderly persons with chronic diseases, elderly persons with dementia, elderly persons with disabilities as well as elderly persons from ethnic minorities ("EMs") and from sexual minorities. [LC Paper No. CB(2)1336/15-16(01)]	
<i>Agenda item I - Provision of services for elderly persons with special needs</i>			
001712 - 001816	Chairman	Invitation of views from deputations on provision of services for elderly persons with special needs.	
001817 - 002220	Chairman 智障人士老齡化關注組	Presentation of views [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1366/15-16(01) to (02)]	
002221 - 002614	Chairman Elderly Community Care Services Concern Group	Presentation of views	
002615 - 002926	Chairman Christian Family Service Centre	Presentation of views	
002927 - 003236	Chairman Ms HSU Kok-man	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1366/15-16(03)]	
003237 - 003550	Chairman 爭取資助院舍聯席	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1366/15-16(04)]	
003551 - 003901	Chairman The Hong Kong Society for the Blind	Presentation of views	
003902 - 004224	Chairman Hong Kong Parkinson's Disease Association	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1336/15-16(03)]	

004225 - 004543	Chairman Rainbow of Hong Kong	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1366/15-16(05)]	
004544 - 004909	Chairman Rainbow Action	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1366/15-16(06)]	
004910 - 005148	Chairman Association for Transgender Rights	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1366/15-16(07)]	
005149 - 005419	Chairman Gay & Grey	Presentation of views	
005420 - 005736	Chairman Women Coalition of HKSAR	Presentation of views	
005737 - 010036	Chairman Chosen Power (People First Hong Kong)	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1366/15-16(08)]	
010037 - 010315	Chairman 認知障礙症照顧聯盟	Presentation of views	
010316 - 010617	Chairman Out & Vote	Presentation of views	
010618 - 010940	Chairman Concerning Home Care Service Alliance	Presentation of views	
010941 - 011256	Chairman Working Group on Dementia Care Service, HKCSS	Presentation of views	
011257 - 011516	Chairman Mr TSANG Kar-kin	Presentation of views	
011517 - 011836	Chairman The Hong Kong Council of Social Service	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1353/15-16(01)]	
011837 - 013124	Chairman Admin	The Administration's response to the views of deputations as follows: <u>Elderly persons with dementia</u> <i>Assessment tool for demented elderly</i> (a) the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") had commissioned Sau Po Centre on Ageing of the University of Hong Kong ("the Sau Po Centre") to conduct a study on the assessment tool for long term care service for the elderly, namely Standardized Care	

		<p>Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services ("SCNAMES"). It was expected that the study findings would help enhance the sensitivity to the care needs of elderly persons and thereby ensure provision of appropriate elderly services.</p> <p><i>Manpower</i></p> <p>(b) SWD had been providing residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs") which offered subsidized places with various kinds of supplements, so that they could engage additional professional and/or care staff, or purchase relevant professional services, to take care of demented elders and organize training programmes for them.</p> <p><i>Spatial standard for RCHEs and improvement of facilities</i></p> <p>(c) recognizing the mobility needs of demented elders, SWD had all along enhanced the spatial standard for RCHEs/day care centres for the elderly ("DEs") and made improvement to the facilities. A review of the spatial standard for RCHEs was currently being conducted.</p> <p><i>Residential respite service ("RRS") and day care services</i></p> <p>(d) a number of enhancements in the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("CCSV Pilot Scheme") would be introduced to facilitate more personalized choices for elderly persons to meet their diverse needs, including those of demented elderly requiring RRS and day care services. Recognized service providers had been reminded of such in their provision of services.</p> <p><i>Medical services</i></p> <p>(e) having regard to limited public resources and the increase in the number of demented elderly, the Hospital Authority ("HA") had put in place an established triage system to ensure that patients with urgent healthcare needs were given medical attention, including assessment and treatment of elderly with dementia, within a reasonable time. It was expected that the relevant services would be strengthened with the increase in the number of doctors. On the other hand, HA and SWD would launch a two-year pilot scheme to provide services for elderly persons with mild</p>	
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or mild to moderate dementia through medical-social collaboration. Regarding the learning disability outreach service to Hostels for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons and Care & Attention Home for Severely Disabled Persons, 54 hostels were provided with services by the learning disability outreach teams at the moment. The services would be expanded to cover eight more hostels in Kowloon West in 2016-2017 so as to increase the service coverage. Furthermore, the number of mentally handicapped beds in Siu Lam Hospital would be increased by 20 to provide infirmary and rehabilitation services to patients with severe and profound intellectual disability in 2016-2017.

Elderly persons from sexual minorities

- (a) SWD had all along been adopting an inclusive and integrated approach in its provision of services to various elder persons, including elderly persons from sexual minorities. For individual elderly with special needs, they would undergo assessment for individual care services by social workers and professionals before receiving long-term care services. Service units would draw up individual care plans and make special arrangement for the elderly persons having regard to their health conditions and care needs;
- (b) SWD would continue to provide frontline staff and management with training and guidelines in respect of avoiding discriminatory practices among all elderly persons, irrespective of their sexual orientation; and
- (c) as regards gender identity disorder-related services, doctors of HA hospitals would ascertain the needs and degree of gender identity disorder of a patient at the initial diagnosis. Depending on the severity of the condition, the patients would be referred to relevant specialist out-patients clinics for follow up treatment as appropriate.

Elderly persons from EMs

SWD would enhance its publicity efforts in respect of the interpretation services for EMs, having regard to its low utilization rate. Notably, promotional leaflets on family services and elderly services were printed in Chinese/English and six EM languages to facilitate EMs, including those elder persons, to

		<p>make use of the welfare services which were provided to all families and individuals regardless of their race. In addition, all staff of SWD were reminded to take note of the care needs of elderly from EMs.</p> <p><u>Ageing of persons with intellectual disabilities ("PIDs")</u></p> <p>(a) the Administration attached great importance to ageing of PIDs. A working group ("the Working Group") under the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee ("RAC") of the Labour and Welfare Bureau was formed in May 2013 to examine the issue of ageing of PIDs in Hong Kong and explore measures to further improve the existing services for PIDs. The Working Group had briefed the Panel on Welfare Services on the survey findings in June 2015. In December 2015, preliminary recommendations were submitted to RAC for consideration. The Working Group had recently completed a report on ageing of PIDs endorsed by RAC. The report had put forward various recommendations on short, medium and long-term measures in different areas, including medical service support for PIDs, training and services for PIDs, review of service delivery modes and support for parents and carers of PIDs as well as manpower training for providing services for PIDs. Notably, transportation support and Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low Income Carers of Persons with Disabilities would be implemented as short-term measures;</p> <p>(b) the Working Group commissioned the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in March 2014 to conduct a survey study on ageing of PIDs in Hong Kong. Data was collected from 11 426 PIDs who were users of day training, vocational rehabilitation and residential care services. There was a tendency for the average number of medical conditions to rise with increasing age, starting from the age of 30 to 39. Having regard to the fast ageing of PIDs with Down Syndrome, consideration would be given to enhancing the design of services so as to meet their needs; and</p> <p>(c) in the past three years, there was an increase of SWD's recurrent expenditure by around \$200 million to meet the service needs of ageing of PIDs. In addition, the number of</p>	
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places for the Extended Care Programme and the Work Extension Programme had been increased by about 1 600 places. Also, more resources had been provided for the Visiting Medical Practitioner Scheme. The Administration would conduct review of the services for PIDs from time to time.

Elderly with suicidal tendency or depression

- (a) the Administration attached great importance to elderly with suicidal tendency or depression. Through the services of elderly centres located in different districts, it encouraged and helped elderly persons develop a fulfilled social life and provided various support services for them, including referral, arrangement of social and recreational activities and emotional support. These centres also provided reaching-out service for hidden and vulnerable elderly persons to encourage and assist them to develop their social life, and provided referral and support service for those in need, such as mental health services; and
- (b) the Psychiatric Department of HA had been providing comprehensive assessment, treatment and follow-up support services for patients with suicidal risks. Besides, the Elderly Suicide Prevention Programme (the Programme) of HA provided front-line social workers and healthcare personnel of elderly such as private doctors with training and help them identify elders with suicidal tendency and symptoms of depression, so that elderly persons at risk of suicide could be referred to specialist psychogeriatric services as early as possible.

Licensing, inspection and monitoring of RCHEs

SWD planned to put SWD's Licensing Office of RCHEs and the Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for Persons with Disabilities ("RCHDs") under the management of a single branch in 2016-2017. The new branch, with an increase in manpower of about 50% when compared with the existing licensing offices, would be able to comprehensively strengthen the inspection and monitoring of RCHEs and RCHDs. In addition, strategies for effective monitoring of these RCHEs would be formulated.

013125 - 013639	Chairman Dr Helena WONG Admin	<p>Dr Helena WONG's concerns as follows:</p> <p>(a) in the light of the projection of a considerable number of elderly persons suffering from dementia by 2036 (i.e. around 280 000 elderly persons or 4% of the population), whether the Administration had drawn up relevant service provision plan to ensure sufficient provision of elderly care services; and</p> <p>(b) whether the assessment tool of SCNAMES could accurately assess the level of impairment of demented elderly, having regard to the fact that SCNAMES would test the physical functioning of the elderly, but not their mental conditions.</p> <p>Dr WONG's view that early identification of dementia was important.</p> <p>The Administration's response that a study on SCNAMES conducted by the Sau Po Centre was nearly completed. Under SCNAMES, the applicants' impairment level was assessed according to their abilities in activities of daily living, physical functioning, communication, memory, behaviour and emotion as well as their health conditions. Such set of tools was considered effective in assessing the actual conditions and care needs of people suffering from dementia. It was expected that the study findings would help make enhancement to SCNAMES and ascertain the long term care needs of elderly people and the provision of appropriate services.</p>	
013640 - 014124	Chairman Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Admin	<p>Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung's disappointment at the Administration's response to the views and concerns of deputations in respect of the special needs of elderly from sexual minorities. Mr LEUNG's grave concern about the mental condition of these elderly persons residing alone in RCHEs. His enquiry about whether consideration would be given to assigning these elderly in the same RCHEs so as to address his concern.</p> <p>The Administration's advice that social workers of the relevant service units attached to RCHEs would conduct comprehensive assessments of the care needs of the elderly persons and provide appropriate support and services based on their actual circumstances.</p> <p>Mr LEUNG's query about the Administration's inclusive policy on provision of care services for elderly with special needs, including those with</p>	

		<p>hearing difficulties or elderly who were deaf. His concern about the communication problem of these elderly persons in RCHEs /DEs in view of absence of staff who understood sign language.</p> <p>The Administration's response as follows:</p> <p>(a) there was provision of training on sign language for staff at RCHEs to enable them to better take care of elderly with hearing impairment; and</p> <p>(b) special facilities, such as flashing devices, were installed in RCHEs to cater for the needs of elderly with hearing impairment or those who were deaf.</p>	
014125 - 014600	<p>Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han</p>	<p>Miss CHAN Yuen-han's view that the Administration's policy initiatives should address the issue of identity recognition for the elderly from sexual minorities.</p> <p>Miss CHAN's grave concern about the fast aging population and whether the Administration had drawn up the service provision plan for meeting the increasing demand for elderly care services.</p> <p>Miss CHAN's suggestions that suitable sites be identified for setting up assembling places for the elderly in the community and that elderly facilities be earmarked in new public housing estate development.</p>	
014601 - 015027	<p>Chairman Dr Fernando CHEUNG</p>	<p>Dr Fernando CHEUNG's grave dissatisfaction about the current provision of elderly care services even though the Administration had a huge fiscal reserve. Deficiencies included the following:</p> <p>(a) waitlisting situation of various kinds of elderly care services. For instance, medical services for elderly persons with dementia and home-based services under the Integrated Home Care Services such as meal delivery and home cleaning;</p> <p>(b) standards of RCHEs and SCNAMES lagging far behind of those adopted in other places;</p> <p>(c) introduction of the CCSV Pilot Scheme as a move towards privatization of subsidized services by inviting private operators to join the market;</p> <p>(d) the problem of aging of persons suffering from dementia and no improvement to the</p>	

		<p>relevant service provision;</p> <p>(e) the problem about provision of interpretation services for elderly from EMs; and</p> <p>(f) a lack of policy for elderly persons from sexual minorities.</p> <p>Dr CHEUNG's view that the Administration should proactively address the above-mentioned problems.</p>	
015028 - 015450	Chairman Mr CHAN Chi-chuen	<p>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen's criticism of the Administration's lack of specific policy on meeting for the special needs of elderly persons from sexual minorities, having regard to the Administration's adoption of an inclusive approach in the provision of elderly care services.</p> <p>Mr CHAN's view that frontline social workers were not knowledgeable about the special needs of elderly from sexual minorities. In his view, consideration should be given to forming small groups for these elderly persons in RCHEs/DEs or visiting them.</p> <p>Mr CHAN's remarks that the recommendations on anti-discrimination strategies and measures in the Report of the Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities could not squarely address the special needs of elderly persons from sexual minorities.</p>	
015451 - 015910	Chairman Deputy Chairman Admin	<p>The Deputy Chairman's appeal to the Administration to take note of deputations' views and concerns about provision of services for elderly persons with special needs as expressed at the meeting. His suggestion that relevant issues be discussed at meetings of the Elderly Commission ("EC") for the purpose of working out the policy directions as appropriate.</p> <p>The Deputy Chairman's concern about the Administration's commitment to resource allocation for provision of services for demented elderly. His enquiry about the way that the Administration would handle the review findings on SCNAMES and those on the existing dementia care services as conducted by the Expert Group on Dementia ("the Expert Group") set up by the Review Committee on Mental Health in 2013.</p> <p>The Administration's response as follows:</p> <p>(a) EC had been tasked with formulating the Elderly Services Programme Plan. In</p>	

		<p>completing the task, EC would take into consideration deputations' views and concerns about the provisioning of various types of elderly services; and</p> <p>(b) the Expert Group would put forth a series of recommendations on dementia support services and the needs of carers in taking care of the elderly. Apart from resource allocation, consideration would also be given to addressing other related issues, including manpower arrangement and suitability of service providers in the implementation of relevant support measures/ policies.</p>	
015911 - 015923	Chairman	Extension of the meeting to 1:00 pm	
015924 - 020336	Chairman Mr WU Chi-wai	<p>Mr WU Chi-wai's view that the adoption of an inclusive approach in providing residential care services should be supported by complementary measures. For instance, policy on allocation which, in his view, should be reviewed. Due care should, however, be exercised to ensure that the disparity would not be too great to defeat the purpose.</p> <p>Mr WU's view that it was imperative to enhance CCS with a view to facilitating ageing in the community and ensuring that residential care service would be the last resort. It was also important that suitable sites could be earmarked for welfare facilities for elderly persons in Government's development projects. SWD should liaise with relevant government bureaux/departments in this regard.</p>	
020337 - 020816	Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung	<p>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's disappointment that there was a lack of service pledge/timetable in respect of provision of services for elderly persons with special needs, such as service targets and resource allocation. Mr LEUNG's query about the Administration's commitment to resolving problems about provision of elderly care services.</p> <p>Mr LEUNG's grave dissatisfaction that considerable public resources had been directed to infrastructure development projects while insufficient resources were earmarked for provision of elderly care services.</p>	
020817 - 021205	Chairman	<p>The Chairman urged the Administration to take note of the views and concerns expressed by deputations and members over the provision of services for elderly persons with special needs.</p> <p>The Chairman's appeal to various government</p>	

		<p>bureaux/departments to work collaboratively in addressing the deficiencies of elderly care services, such as those for elderly from sexual minorities and rehabilitation services for elderly persons with disabilities, and set priorities as appropriate.</p> <p>The Chairman's advice that the Administration and Members of the subsequent Legislative Councils should follow up the provision of services for elderly persons with chronic diseases, elderly persons with dementia, elderly persons with disabilities as well as elderly persons from EMs and from sexual minorities.</p>	
021206 - 021415	Chairman 智障人士老齡化關注組	<p>The Chairman's invitation of further views from deputations.</p> <p>Presentation of further views</p>	
021416 - 021524	Chairman Christian Family Service Centre	Presentation of further views	
021525 - 021641	Chairman 爭取資助院舍聯席	Presentation of further views	
021642 - 021736	Chairman Rainbow Action	Presentation of further views	
021737 - 021847	Chairman The Hong Kong Council of Social Service	Presentation of further views	
021848 - 021934	Chairman Chosen Power (People First Hong Kong)	Presentation of further views	
021935 - 022115	Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han	<p>The Chairman's suggestion that the Administration should proactively liaise with relevant deputations after the meeting in respect of making improvement to the provision of services for elderly with special needs. Miss CHAN Yuen-han's suggestion of holding an additional Subcommittee meeting if possible.</p>	
<i>Agenda item II – Date of next meeting and item(s) for discussion</i>			
022116 - 022228	Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han	Item for discussion at the next two meetings.	