

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1792/16-17(01)

Ref : CB2/PL/WS

Report of the Panel on Welfare Services for submission to the Legislative Council

Purpose

This report gives an account of the work of the Panel on Welfare Services ("the Panel") during the 2016-2017 session of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"). It will be tabled at the Council meeting of 12 July 2017 in accordance with Rule 77(14) of the Rules of Procedure.

The Panel

2. The Panel was formed by a resolution of the Council on 8 July 1998 and as amended on 20 December 2000, 9 October 2002, 11 July 2007 and 2 July 2008 for the purpose of monitoring and examining Government policies and issues of public concern relating to welfare (including women welfare) and rehabilitation services, poverty, social enterprise and the Family Council. The terms of reference of the Panel are in **Appendix I**.

3. The Panel comprises 22 members, with Hon SHIU Ka-chun and Hon KWONG Chun-yu elected as its Chairman and Deputy Chairman respectively. The membership list of the Panel is in **Appendix II**.

Major work

Social welfare planning and administration

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

4. The Panel was briefed on the progress of implementation of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses ("Special Scheme"). Members noted that as at end November 2016, one project under the Special Scheme had been completed and would commence service in end-2016. Five other projects had entered construction stage,

four of which were expected to be completed in or before 2017-2018, and the other one in 2018-2019. The remaining 57 projects were at different planning stages and were expected to be completed in phases after 2018-2019, subject to their technical feasibility.

5. Some members took the view that in-situ expansion and redevelopment projects under the Special Scheme would inevitably affect the services currently provided by applicant non-governmental organizations ("NGOs"). They called on the Administration to plan ahead and make suitable arrangements to avoid disruption to existing services. The Administration was requested to make timely relocation arrangements for users of residential care services ("RCS") or day care services affected by the projects. These members also considered it important for residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs") to provide elderly persons a homely environment. These members took the view that the Administration should construct more small RCHEs and avoid building large RCHEs. As a large RCHE would be built under the Special Scheme, the Administration was requested to put efforts in making the operation of the RCHE concerned as homely as practicable and a dedicated team should be set up for this purpose.

Progress of implementation of Best Practice Manual in non-governmental organizations receiving Lump Sum Grant subvention

6. The Panel was briefed on the progress of the implementation of the Best Practice Manual ("BPM") for NGOs receiving Lump Sum Grant ("LSG") subvention. Noting that items relating to various management issues under BPM were divided into Level One (i.e. items which NGOs were expected to follow) and Level Two (i.e. items which NGOs were encouraged to adopt), some members took the view that many Level One items were fundamental and should be implemented without any difficulties. They queried why most of the items concerning service users were placed under Level Two and why BPM was not enforced in a mandatory manner if service users were the service target. These members considered that as the LSG Subvention System which had caused a lot of problems to NGOs had not been reviewed comprehensively since 2007, the Administration should conduct a holistic review of the System.

Estate-based social welfare services planning

7. The Panel was briefed on the planning for social welfare services for newly completed public rental housing ("PRH") estates. Members called on the Administration to provide a new PRH estate with a team of social workers for a period of five years to assist residents in adapting to the new environment and building community capital. Members also suggested that the services and facilities for the district where a new PRH estate was

located, including those provided for persons with disabilities, elderly persons, families, children and youngsters, should be made available before the intake of residents. Members also urged the Administration to set up, before such intake, an inter-departmental working group to plan and provide sufficient facilities and services to meet the residents' basic needs for social welfare (particularly community care and residential care facilities), transport, education, employment, health care and shopping, etc. The Panel would receive public views on the subject matter in July 2017.

Transparency of salary and cash allowance for senior management of social welfare organizations

8. The Panel was briefed on the disclosure of the remuneration and cash allowance of the staff in the top three tiers of non-governmental social welfare organizations receiving LSG subvention. Public views were also received on the subject matter. Members noted that such disclosure was in accordance with the guidelines for subvented bodies which were promulgated in 2003 by the Administration Wing of the Chief Secretary for Administration's Office. Taking the view that the aforesaid guidelines might not be suitable for the welfare sector, some members suggested that new guidelines should be drawn up for the welfare sector. The Administration was also requested to establish a pay scale for the welfare sector. Some other members were gravely concerned that some NGOs receiving LSG subvention had used the LSG reserve for paying bonus or cash allowance of a large amount to their senior management staff. In order to save up a larger sum for cash allowance or bonus payments, these NGOs might recruit fewer employees, reduce staff remuneration and lower service standards, resulting in deterioration of their service quality. These members took the view that the provision of bonus payment or cash allowance for staff of NGOs should be forbidden. NGOs should not keep any reserve and all subvention should be used on providing services and improving remuneration of frontline staff. These members also considered that information on remuneration of frontline staff of NGOs should also be made public.

Social Security

Annual adjustment of social security payment rates under Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme and Social Security Allowance Scheme

9. The Panel supported the Administration's proposal to adjust the standard payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme and rates of allowances under the Social Security Allowance Scheme with effect from 1 February 2017, having regard to the latest movement of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices. Some members, however, opined that assistance for CSSA

households living in rented private housing should be enhanced, given that many of these households had to use part of their CSSA payments on rental.

Additional provision for recipients of social security payments, Low-income Working Family Allowance and Work Incentive Transport Subsidy

10. The Panel was briefed on the Administration's initiative to provide a one-off extra payment to recipients of social security payments (including CSSA payments, Old Age Allowance ("OAA"), Old Age Living Allowance ("OALA") and Disability Allowance ("DA")), Low-income Working Family Allowance ("LIFA") and Work Incentive Transport Subsidy. Some members considered that the standard rates and the maximum rates of the rent allowance ("MRA") under the CSSA Scheme had all along been insufficient for recipients to meet their basic needs and rental expenses. Noting that the Administration had not conducted any review of the CSSA Scheme since its last review on basic needs in 1996, these members called on the Administration to conduct a comprehensive review of the CSSA Scheme and set the subsistence level afresh.

Support measures for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance

11. The Panel met with the Administration and deputations on the Administration's support measures for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA ("the N have-nots"). Members noted that the Community Care Fund ("CCF") had decided not to re-launch the One-off Living Subsidy Programme for the N have-nots in 2017.

12. The Panel regretted the aforesaid decision of CCF and urged the Administration to immediately regularize and provide the subsidy for the N have-nots. Members were gravely concerned that many of the N have-nots who lived in sub-divided units without separate water and electricity meters were overcharged by their landlords for water and electricity consumption. The Administration was therefore requested to amend relevant legislation to require landlords to install separate water and electricity meters and to impose penalty provisions for resale of water and electricity to third parties. The Administration was also requested to provide these N have-nots with energy subsidies for paying water and electricity charges, until the relevant legislative amendments were made and implemented. The Panel would discuss "Welfare support for grass-roots facing Energy Poverty" at its meeting in July 2017.

Review of Disability Allowance and system for processing applications thereof

13. The Panel was briefed on the progress of implementation of the recommendations of the Inter-departmental Working Group on Review of the Disability Allowance ("the Working Group") set up by the Labour and Welfare Bureau. The Panel also received deputations' views on review of DA and the system for processing applications thereof.

14. Members strongly requested the Administration to improve as soon as possible the current policies on providing support to persons with disabilities. The Administration was requested to remove the reference to "100% loss of earning capacity" from the medical assessment form for DA ("MAF") and retain the assessment criterion of "working in the original occupation and performing any other kind of work for which he/she is suited" in MAF. Members also called on the Administration to retain the reference to the types of disabilities (i.e. organic brain syndrome, mental retardation, psychosis, neurosis, personality disorder and any other conditions resulting in total mental disablement) in Part I(B) of MAF and include more types of disabilities therein. The Administration was also requested to regard DA as a separate allowance, rather than pegging it with other welfare items. Members also urged the Administration to review the DA system and raise the amount of DA payment, with a view to improving the living standard of persons with disabilities.

Retirement protection

15. The Panel was briefed on the policy initiatives on welfare services as set out in the 2017 Policy Address which included, inter alia, those in relation to retirement protection. The Panel passed a motion strongly condemning the Administration for refusing to implement a non-means-tested universal retirement protection scheme notwithstanding experts' actuarial evaluations, support of public opinion and financial sustainability. The Administration was requested to immediately implement such a scheme. The Panel also passed another motion opposing the Administration's use of the \$50 billion set aside for retirement protection to address the "offsetting" issue of the Mandatory Provident Fund and enhance OALA. Members strongly requested the Administration to reserve the \$50 billion as dedicated funding for universal retirement protection.

16. Members noted that applicants under the CSSA Scheme must apply on a household basis and the eligible age for elderly CSSA would be raised from 60 to 65 to align with the direction of the Administration's population policy to extend retirement age. The Panel urged the Administration to review the existing CSSA Scheme and allow elderly persons and persons

with disabilities to apply for CSSA on an individual basis. Members also strongly requested the Administration to retain the aforesaid age restriction at 60 and lower the age restriction imposed on the non-mean-tested OAA from 70 to 65.

Review of effectiveness of Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme

17. The Panel was briefed on the implementation of the LIFA Scheme and progress of the preparation for its comprehensive policy review. Members considered the Scheme ineffective, as only 119 000 persons had benefited from the Scheme as of June 2017 which was substantially below the Administration's estimated number of 700 000 beneficiaries. Members requested the Administration to expeditiously conduct a review of the LIFA Scheme and proactively remove the barriers to effective operation of the Scheme, so as to alleviate working poverty. Specifically the Administration was requested to relax the claim period of LIFA from six months to six to 12 months, allow working hours of all family members to aggregate, include an additional working hour threshold which was between 72 and 144 hours, relax the income limits to 75% of the median monthly domestic household income or below, extend the scope of the Scheme to cover one-person households with their income and asset limits to be the same as those for two-person households as well as simplify the application procedure. Members also proposed that the Child Allowance under the LIFA Scheme should not be tied to working hours, so that children from low-income families which met the income requirement could all receive full-rate Child Allowance. The Panel would receive public views on the review of the LIFA Scheme in July 2017.

Services for the elderly

Inspection and monitoring of residential care homes for the elderly and residential care homes for persons with disabilities

18. The Panel supported the Administration's staffing proposal to create a supernumerary post of Assistant Director of Social Welfare to head a new Licensing and Regulation Branch of the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") for strengthening the inspection and monitoring of RCHes and residential care homes for persons with disabilities ("RCHDs"). Members urged SWD to immediately set up a committee, which comprised users, family members, professionals and LegCo Members, to reform the relevant legislation and codes within three years. SWD was also requested to open up the monitoring system for care homes and support the setting up of inspection teams in the community, so that stakeholders such as family members, users and professionals could assist in the monitoring work. Members also urged SWD to take over the management of a care home with poor quality of services and, if the takeover was not possible,

immediately strengthen its support to the care home concerned. SWD was also requested to submit to the Council an interim and a final review report after the creation of the Assistant Director post for two and four years respectively.

Elderly Services Programme Plan

19. The Panel was briefed on the progress of the preparation of the Elderly Services Programme Plan ("ESPP") and its initial recommendations which were mainly under four key strategic directions (i.e. (a) achieving "ageing-in-place" and reducing institutionalization rate through significantly strengthening community care services ("CCS"), (b) enabling informed choices and timely access to quality services, (c) further streamlining and promoting integrated service delivery, and (d) ensuring financial sustainability and accountability of elderly services).¹ The Panel also received public views on the Administration's policy positioning of "ageing in place as the core, institutional care as back-up" in light of ESPP. Members also visited two private RCHEs to understand their operation and discussed with the operators the role of private RCHEs in ESPP and ways to assist private RCHEs in improving their service quality.

20. Some members considered that to enable elderly persons to age in place, the Administration should eliminate substandard RCHEs, substantially increase the provision of CCS and home care services as well as strengthen its support for family carers. Members also shared deputations' view that the Administration should reform the relevant legislation within three years. The Panel would further discuss the subject matter at its meeting in July 2017 when it would be briefed on details of the finalized ESPP.

Care support services for elderly persons discharged from public hospitals after treatment

21. The Panel was briefed on the Administration's plan to invite CCF to consider implementing a new pilot scheme to provide the necessary transitional care and support for elderly persons newly discharged from public hospitals after treatment. Some members took the view that as elderly persons who received temporary RCS under the pilot scheme would continue to stay in RCHEs, the pilot scheme could not reduce premature institutionalization of elderly persons. It would be more desirable for elderly persons who were discharged from hospitals to receive outreach services at home. Noting that the provision of services under the new pilot scheme and the Pilot Scheme on CCS Voucher for the Elderly ("CCS

¹ A total of 20 initial recommendations had been put forward with details set out in Annex F to LC Paper No. CB(2)149/16-17(05) issued on 11 November 2016.

Voucher Scheme") was through the use of vouchers, some members were concerned whether it was premature to roll out the new pilot scheme at this stage given that the CCS Voucher Scheme was still in its trial period.

Implementation of Pilot Scheme on Home Care and Support for Elderly Persons with Mild Impairment

22. The Panel was briefed on the Administration's plan to invite CCF to consider funding a new pilot scheme to provide home care and support services for elderly persons who were aged at or above 60 with mild impairment. Given that many demented persons were below the age of 60, some members called on the Administration to consider relaxing the age requirement of the pilot scheme so that they could participate in it. Given that service providers of the pilot scheme would be those NGOs currently providing Integrated Home Care Services (Ordinary Cases) funded by SWD, these members hoped that additional resources would be allocated to service providers of the pilot scheme for hiring staff dedicated to providing services under the pilot scheme.

Overseas forum and meeting on active ageing

23. The Panel had nominated three LegCo Members² to participate in the Multistakeholder Forum on "Investing in Healthy and Active Ageing for Sustainable Growth" and attend the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development Standing Committee Meeting on Active Ageing ("the Meeting") as special observers. The Forum and the Meeting would be held from 15 to 16 August and 17 August 2017 respectively in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Services for persons with disabilities

Looking into quality problem of private residential care homes for persons with disabilities in light of "Bridge of Rehabilitation Company" incident

24. The Panel was briefed on the measures taken and being planned by the Administration to monitor the service quality of RCHDs. Members also received public views on the quality problem of RCHDs in light of the "Bridge of Rehabilitation Company" incident.³ Members also visited two private RCHDs to understand their operation and the living conditions of their residents.

² They are Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT (non-Panel Member), Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu (Panel member) and Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (Panel member).

³ The incident refers to the occurrence in recent years of a number of sexual assaults and a chain of suspicious deaths of residents of private residential care homes for persons with disabilities operated by the Bridge of Rehabilitation Company.

25. Taking the view that the incident had revealed the problem of poor quality of RCHDs, the Panel reiterated its requests to the Administration elaborated in paragraph 18 above to enhance the monitoring work and service quality of care homes. The Administration was also requested to increase the staffing ratio of care homes, improve the quality of their environment and care, impose more stringent requirements on operators and heavier penalties for non-compliance with relevant legislation. The Panel also called on the Administration to enhance its monitoring of RCHDs, and on the basis of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, make afresh planning on long-term care services, develop diversified home-like care homes and substantially increase community and home-based services, make every endeavour to enable persons with disabilities and frail elderly persons to live independently in the community with dignity.

Looking into mental health services and relevant welfare issues in light of MTR arson attack

26. The Panel held a joint meeting with the Panel on Health Services ("the HS Panel") to discuss the mental health services and relevant welfare issues in light of the MTR arson attack.⁴ Members extended its deepest condolences to the victims, their family members and frontline rescuers in the attack, and urged the Administration to disseminate a correct message about mental illness with regard to this tragedy, so as to foster in society a positive attitude instead of discrimination towards persons with mental illness. The Administration was requested to increase the ratios of psychiatrists, nurses and social workers to mental patients, expeditiously identify permanent sites for all Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness ("ICCMWs") and deploy adequate psychiatric healthcare personnel (including psychologists) for each ICCMW, re-introduce evening psychiatric consultation services, enhance post-discharge care through increasing the provision of case management service and its manpower, enhancing medical-social collaboration and strengthening support for persons with mental illness and their family members.

27. Members expressed disappointment at the Administration's procrastination in formulating a long-term mental health policy. They called on the Administration to set up a mental health council to coordinate mental health policies. The Administration was requested to invite frontline healthcare personnel, patients and their family members, social workers, social welfare organizations, academics and other people who were concerned about mental health in Hong Kong, to jointly take part in

⁴ The MTR arson attack, which took place on 10 February 2017, was made by a patient with mental illness residing in the community.

the formulation of a comprehensive mental health policy.

Family and child welfare

Progress of implementation of after-school care and support services

28. The Panel was briefed on the progress of implementation of after-school care and support services which included, inter alia, the After-school Care Programme ("ASCP") provided by SWD through welfare NGOs. Expressing concern about the inadequate provision of ASCP places and subsidy for NGOs providing ASCP service, some members called on the Administration to increase the provision of ASCP places and the amount of subsidy to such NGOs. These members were also concerned that many non-working parents who wished to enter the workforce could not spare time to seek employment as they had to take care of their children. Noting that applicants should be in employment in order to be eligible for ASCP service, these members considered it difficult for non-working parents to look for employment if their children were not provided with after-school care services. The Administration was therefore requested to relax the working requirements under ASCP to facilitate these parents to seek employment. Noting that the support services provided by ASCP were for children aged between six and 12, these members also requested the Administration to relax the age limit to cover children aged between three and five so as to facilitate parents of children studying in kindergartens to seek employment.

Proposed legislation to implement recommendations of Law Reform Commission Report on Child Custody and Access and relevant support measures

29. The Panel was briefed on the outcome of the Administration's public consultation exercise conducted between November 2015 and March 2016 on the proposed legislation to implement the recommendations of the Law Reform Commission Report on Child Custody and Access and relevant support measures, as well as the current development. Members were informed that while the majority of views received from the public consultation exercise supported in principle the implementation of the parental responsibility model by legislative means, there was strong public demand that more enhanced support services should be in place for the separated/divorced families. Members also noted that SWD had been strengthening support measures which included, inter alia, the launch of a two-year Pilot Project on Children Contact Service to assist separated/divorced parents to rebuild and maintain healthy communication and contact with their children who could also have safe, conflict-free contact with their non-residing parent. The Panel had visited the parent-child contact centre operated under the Pilot Project to understand

its operation.

30. Members took the view that the public had great reservation about the law reform on child custody and access in Hong Kong in view of insufficient provision of service support. They considered that the Administration should set up a maintenance board to help divorced parents collect maintenance payments, assist single-parent families to seek financial support, enhance the prevention of divorce and support divorced families, and set up expeditiously parent-child contact centres in various districts, so as to promote parental responsibility through specific services. Members would receive public views on the proposed legislation and support measures at a future meeting of the Panel.

Review of role and staff establishment of Integrated Family Service Centres

31. The Panel was briefed on the role and staff establishment of Integrated Family Service Centres ("IFSCs") of SWD and on the relevant review and improvement measures. Members were informed that both SWD and NGOs operated IFSCs. Their services were basically the same except that SWD-operated IFSCs were required to handle statutory cases and cases involving the use of public funds such as compassionate rehousing ("CR") cases. Each IFSC provided a range of developmental, preventive, supportive and remedial (e.g. intensive counseling, therapeutic groups and crisis intervention) services to individuals and families in need.

32. Some members noted with concern that according to many social workers and NGOs, IFSCs were required to spend most of their time and resources on providing counselling services. These members considered that IFSCs should attach greater importance to developmental and preventive services than to support and counselling services. These members also requested the Administration to set up dedicated CR teams to process CR cases and provide designated services for specific target groups such as sexual minorities and single parents.

Provision of welfare facilities

33. The Panel was briefed on the Administration's proposal to set up elderly and rehabilitation service facilities in Sai Kung, Wong Chuk Hang, Sha Tin and Lei Yue Mun. Some members considered that while the waiting time for day activity centres ("DACs") places was long, the provision of these services had not been enhanced. New service places for persons with severe intellectual disabilities were only provided in DACs cum hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons ("HSMHs"). As such, although some persons with severe intellectual disabilities did not require RCS, they had to apply for places in DACs cum HSMHs in order to receive DAC services. Taking the view that DACs cum HSMHs were not

suitable for persons with severe intellectual disabilities who required DAC services only, these members called on the Administration to reconsider the mode of the rehabilitation services under the Sai Kung project. The Administration was also requested to seek views of service providers and users on the service mode of these rehabilitation services. These members also opined that the demand for RCS for elderly persons would not be so great if there was adequate provision of CCS for them. To prevent elderly persons from premature institutionalization, the Administration was requested to increase the provision of CCS for them in the long run.

Policies on street sleepers and relevant support services and actions/measures

34. The Panel held a joint meeting with the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene to discuss with the Administration and deputations its policies on street sleepers as well as the relevant support services and actions/measures. Members of the Panel also visited street sleepers in the community to understand their living conditions. Members supported the following recommendations made in a report prepared by two universities and four community organizations that provided services to the homeless:⁵ (a) providing integrated support services on accommodation, (b) immediately increasing the number of subsidized hostel places and extending the accommodation period of subsidized hostels, (c) formulating policies on transitional housing and construct temporary housing, (d) paying attention to the health conditions of the homeless and introducing services of mobile dispensaries with medical staff, (e) conducting territory-wide homeless street counts on a regular basis, (f) drawing up policies for the homeless, and (g) formulating policies on rental control. Members also called on the Administration to make up for the 11% cut in the CSSA standard rates in 1999.

35. Members noted that some street sleepers had complained that they had been assaulted by the Police and their personal belongings had been seized by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") during eviction exercises against them. According to these street sleepers, during street cleansing operations FEHD had sprinkled their dwelling places with ammonia powder which did not serve any cleaning purpose. In this connection, members requested the Police to stop using unnecessary force/violence during their inspections and eviction exercises. The Police and FEHD were requested not to remove or snatch belongings of street

⁵ The report, entitled "Homeless Outreach Population Estimation Hong Kong 2015", was prepared by the ICARE Programme of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Youth Empowerment Project of the City University of Hong Kong, Christian Concern For Homeless Association, Society for Community Organization, St. James' Settlement and Salvation Army.

sleepers without their consent during eviction exercises against them. FEHD was also requested to stop the aforesaid sprinkling of ammonia powder. SWD, the Police and FEHD were also requested to establish a communication platform and stop evicting street sleepers in the absence of appropriate support to them.

Support services for singletons

36. The Panel was briefed on the existing welfare, housing and other support services provided by the Administration for singletons. Members also received public views on the subject matter. Expressing concern about the absence of specific policy on singletons and dedicated support service for them, some members urged the Administration to formulate such a policy and consider establishing dedicated service centres for singletons. To address the housing needs of needy singletons, these members considered that the existing housing policies and singleton hostel policies should be reviewed. Specifically the Administration was requested to increase the number, area and accommodation period of hostel places for singletons. To shorten non-elderly singletons' waiting time for PRH, these members also called on the Administration to prepare two waiting lists, one for elderly singleton applicants and the other for non-elderly singleton applicants. The Administration was also requested to increase MRA under the CSSA Scheme for a one-person household to the same level as that for a two-person household and re-launch the CCF's One-off Living Subsidy Programme for the N have-nots.

Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy

37. The Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy, established under the Panel and the HS Panel in December 2016, studied long-term care policy and services. The Joint Subcommittee had held seven meetings to discuss with the Administration and deputations various issues of concern including review of Integrated Home Care Services, Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly, support for persons suffering from dementia and their family members, dental care for the elderly and people with disabilities, community support services for mentally ill and ex-mentally ill persons as well as service quality of private residential care homes.

Meetings held and visits conducted

38. During the period between October 2016 and June 2017, the Panel held a total of 18 meetings⁶ with the Administration and received views

⁶ Of the 18 meetings, two were joint meetings with the Panel on Health Services and one was a joint meeting with the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene.

from 213 deputations/individuals at seven of these meetings. Three meetings⁷ have been scheduled for July 2017. Four local visits⁸ were also conducted and another one⁹ has been scheduled for July 2017.

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Legislative Council Secretariat
4 July 2017

⁷ Apart from a regular meeting, two special meetings will be held to receive public views as mentioned in paragraphs 7 and 17.

⁸ They were mentioned in paragraphs 19, 24, 29 and 34.

⁹ In connection with the Panel's discussion of "Review of services and policies relating to hostels for children" at its regular meeting in July 2017, a visit to a hostel for children has been scheduled for July 2017 to enable members to understand the operation of hostels for children.

Appendix I

Legislative Council

Panel on Welfare Services

Terms of Reference

1. To monitor and examine Government policies and issues of public concern relating to welfare (including women welfare) and rehabilitation services, poverty, social enterprise and Family Council.
2. To provide a forum for the exchange and dissemination of views on the above policy matters.
3. To receive briefings and to formulate views on any major legislative or financial proposals in respect of the above policy areas prior to their formal introduction to the Council or Finance Committee.
4. To monitor and examine, to the extent it considers necessary, the above policy matters referred to it by a member of the Panel or by the House Committee.
5. To make reports to the Council or to the House Committee as required by the Rules of Procedure.

Panel on Welfare Services

Membership list for the 2016 - 2017 session*

Chairman	Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Deputy Chairman	Hon KWONG Chun-yu
Members	Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP Hon CHAN Chi-chuen Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH Hon Alvin YEUNG Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin Hon CHU Hoi-dick Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP Hon YUNG Hoi-yan Dr Hon Pierre CHAN Hon HUI Chi-fung Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

(Total : 22 members)

Clerk	Mr Colin CHUI
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Legal adviser	Miss Rachel DAI
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* Changes in membership are shown in Annex.

Annex to Appendix II

Panel on Welfare Services

Changes in membership

Member	Relevant date
Hon Kenneth LEUNG	up to 25 October 2016
Hon Claudia MO	up to 27 October 2016
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP	up to 6 November 2016
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP	up to 10 November 2016
Hon LAM Cheuk-ting	up to 10 November 2016
Hon Tanya CHAN	up to 21 November 2016
Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim	up to 27 November 2016
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP	up to 28 November 2016
Hon IP Kin-yuen	up to 29 November 2016
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho	up to 4 December 2016
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang	up to 7 December 2016
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH	up to 27 December 2016
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP	since 9 January 2017
Hon James TO Kun-sun	up to 5 February 2017
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan	up to 19 February 2017
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP	since 10 April 2017