

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 11 October 2017)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Annual adjustment of social security payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme and the Social Security Allowance Scheme, and issues relating to rent allowance under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme

The Administration will brief members on:

November 2017

(a) the latest position of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices and the estimated corresponding adjustment to the rates of allowances under the Social Security Allowance Scheme and standard payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme as from 1 February 2018. The Administration intends to submit the relevant funding proposal to the Finance Committee in December 2017; and

(b) the latest position of the Consumer Price Index (A) rent index for private housing and the estimated corresponding adjustment to the maximum rates of the rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme as from 1 February 2018, as well as relevant information on the maximum rent allowance.

2. The Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme

The Administration will brief members on the enhancements to the Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme announced in "The Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address".

November 2017

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Services for elderly

3. Elderly Services Programme Plan

The Administration briefed members on the progress of the formulation of the Elderly Services Programme Plan ("ESPP") at the Panel meeting on 14 November 2016. The Panel held a special meeting on 29 November 2016 to receive public views on ESPP.

To be decided

The Panel was briefed on the findings and recommendations of ESPP at its meeting on 10 July 2017. Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki, Hon Alvin YEUNG and Hon Fernando CHEUNG have requested the Panel to receive public views on ESPP.

4. Review of Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459)

The Panel of the Fifth Legislative Council ("the former Panel") acceded to Prof Hon Joseph LEE's request for holding a joint meeting with the Panel on Health Services to discuss the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) with a view to improving the quality of these residential care homes ("RCHs").

To be decided

5. Care services for elderly persons with special needs

The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Future Development of Elderly Services Schemes formed under the former Panel had studied, inter alia, the care services for elderly persons with special needs. The Subcommittee submitted its report (LC Paper No. CB(2)1902/15-16) to the former Panel in July 2016. In its report the Subcommittee suggested that the Panel should follow up the provision of services by the Administration for elderly persons with chronic diseases, dementia or disabilities as well as elderly persons from ethnic minorities and from

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

sexual minorities.

6. Infirmary care in non-hospital setting

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

To be decided

Social security

7. Review of Old Age Living Allowance

Item proposed by Hon LEUNG Che-cheung.

To be decided

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

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen has requested that the Administration should complete the review and report the outcome to the Panel as soon as possible.

At the policy briefing on 26 January 2017, the Administration briefed the Panel on the proposed enhancements to OALA announced in the former Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address. The implementation details of the enhancements have been set out in the Annex to the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)931/16-17(04)) for discussion by the Panel at its meeting on 13 March 2017.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Support for underprivileged groups with special needs in the community

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

Item proposed by Miss CHAN Yuen-han.

To be decided

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

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG.

To be decided

10. Community care and support services for persons with disabilities

The former Panel acceded to Dr 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

The Panel acceded to Hon YUNG Hoi-yan's request (LC Paper No. CB(2)253/16-17(01)) for discussion of issues relating to autistic adults.

11. Issues relating to students with special educational needs

Item proposed by Hon Alvin YEUNG. He also suggested that the Panel on Education be invited to join the relevant discussion.

To be decided

Welfare services for families, youth and children

12. Welfare measures for facilitating children and youth development

The former Panel agreed to explore whether to discuss the issue "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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Hon SHIU Ka-chun has suggested discussing as soon as possible the captioned subject matter which also covers the issue mentioned above.

13. Policy to deal with domestic violence

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LC Paper No. CB(2)1839/16-17(01)). To be decided

Social welfare planning and administration

14. Social welfare planning

Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the former Panel should discuss social welfare planning. To be decided

The former 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.

Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the Panel should discuss planning for rehabilitation services.

Miss CHAN Yuen-han suggested that the Panel should 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.

Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should discuss planning targets for the provision of child care places and residential care places for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

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

Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che requested for discussion To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

of the manpower situation of paramedical and supporting staff in the social welfare sector at a Panel meeting.

16. Amending Social Workers Registration Ordinance (Cap. 505)

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

17. Monitoring the implementation of prohibition of cross-subsidization under the Lump Sum Grant Subvention System

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

18. Management of projects financed by Lotteries Fund

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. The item was covered in the Report of the Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") No. 68 published in July 2017.

To be decided

Provision of welfare facilities

19. Setting up a care and attention home for severely disabled persons and a special child care centre cum early education and training centre in So Uk Estate Redevelopment Phase 1, Sham Shui Po

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

- 21. Setting up a 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

- 22. 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

- 23. Provision of welfare service premises for the elderly and enhancement of facilities therein**

Item proposed by Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che.

To be decided

Poverty alleviation

- 24. Possible support for deprived communities**

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. He wishes to discuss as soon as possible support measures for deprived communities (i.e. people living in urban slum areas).

To be decided

Women welfare

- 25. 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 Miss CHAN Yuen-han.

To be decided

Others

- 26. Charitable fund-raising activities**

On 6 December 2013, the Law Reform Commission ("LRC") released its report on

To be decided

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for discussion**

charities, which put forward a number of recommendations including those on monitoring charitable fund-raising activities. Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") is coordinating comments from relevant bureaux and departments for formulating the Administration's responses to the report.

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

The monitoring of charitable fund-raising activities was covered in PAC Report No. 68 published in July 2017.

27. 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 Miss CHAN Yuen-han. She suggested that the Panel should hold a joint meeting with the Panel on Security to discuss the subject matter with the Administration.

To be decided

The House Committee has agreed at its meeting on 28 October 2016 to appoint a subcommittee to follow up issues relating to the Unified Screening Mechanism for Non-refoulement Claims. The Subcommittee is in the third place on the waiting list pending activation.

The Panel on Security discussed the subject of "Comprehensive review of strategy of handling non-refoulement claimants" at its meeting on 11 November 2016.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

**28. Policies on preventing abuse of elderly persons
and of persons with intellectual disabilities**

The former Panel suggested that the Panel should discuss policies on preventing abuse of elderly persons in RCHs and of persons with intellectual disabilities in schools/hostels for persons with intellectual disabilities.

To be decided

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