

Panel on Welfare Services

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 4 April 2018)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. 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.
2. Community care support for persons suffering from dementia and their carers	11 December 2017	<p>The Administration/Hospital Authority ("HA") was requested to provide information on:</p> <p>(a) the number of persons having early symptoms of dementia who were receiving relevant services provided by the Administration;</p> <p>(b) a breakdown of the age distribution of the 500 odd patients with dementia who were below 60 years old and were receiving treatment from HA's psychiatric departments; and</p> <p>(c) the number of unsuccessful applications for the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low Income Families.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
3. Mental health of adolescents ¹	20 December 2017 (Joint meeting with the Panel on Education and Panel on Health Services)	<p>The Administration/HA was requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide quarterly reports on the work progress of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health which was established on 28 November 2017; (b) provide, with a breakdown by the year of schooling, the enrollment rates of eligible students for the Department of Health's Student Health Service ("SHS") and attendance rates of these students for the annual health assessment provided under SHS to, among others, screen for mental health problem(s); (c) in respect of the child and adolescent psychiatric service provided by HA, advise the annual expenditure involved, and the number and rate of increase in healthcare manpower for the provision of the service from 2011-2012 to 2016-2017; (d) provide information on the suicide rate of adolescents aged between 12 and 17 in the past 10 years; (e) advise the respective numbers and percentages of students who had received Tier-3 support under the Three-tier Intervention Model in the school setting 	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

¹ The item has been separately included in the list of follow-up actions of the Panel on Health Services and that of the Panel on Education.

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		<p>in each of the past five years, and whether any of these students had committed suicide afterwards; and</p> <p>(f) advise whether and, if so, what additional funding support would be provided to tertiary institutions according to the number of students with special education needs admitted to individual institutions.</p>	
4. Progress of implementation of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses	8 January 2018	The Administration was requested to provide the formula for drawing up the schedules of accommodation of facilities for elderly services and rehabilitation services under the Special Scheme.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
5. Implementation of Higher Old Age Living Allowance	12 February 2018	The Administration was requested to provide a projection of the additional expenditure incurred by the Government in providing Higher Old Age Living Allowance in 2068 (i.e. 50 years later), taking into account the effect of population ageing.	The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1164/17-18(01) on 3 April 2018.
6. Review of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme	12 February 2018	<p>The Administration was requested to provide:</p> <p>(a) the percentiles of the average monthly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") payment in the average monthly expenditure of non-CSSA households in the lowest 25% expenditure group for different household sizes (i.e. from one person households to six persons or more households);</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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		<p>(b) its response regarding the reduction in the CSSA recurrent expenditure from 9.3% in 2006-2007 to 6.4% in 2014-2015 in the total recurrent government expenditure; and</p> <p>(c) its response on how the Administration would plug the loopholes of the CSSA Scheme set out in the Appendix.</p>	
	19 March 2018	<p>The Administration was requested to provide:</p> <p>(a) a response to the further views expressed by the deputations/individuals on review of the CSSA Scheme at the meeting; and</p> <p>(b) an article on the compilation of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices which was published in the November 2016 issue of the Hong Kong Monthly Digest of Statistics.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
7. Follow-up on the Law Reform Commission Report on Child Custody and Access and related support measures	12 March 2018	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on:</p> <p>(a) the distribution of the additional recurrent provision of around \$56 million among the setting up of five specialized co-parenting support centres in 2018-2019 and strengthening the manpower of Social Welfare Department's Integrated Family Service Centres and Family and Child Protective Services Units ("FCPSUs"); and</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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		(b) the total target number of service users of co-parenting support centres and FCPSUs in a year.	
8. Setting up two new contract residential care homes for the elderly and two new day care centres for the elderly at the land sale site at Site 1F1 of Kai Tak Development, Kowloon	12 March 2018	<p>The Administration was requested to provide:</p> <p>(a) the estimated year of service commencement of the new contract residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs"), contract RCHEs with day care units for the elderly and day care centres for the elderly listed on Annex 2 to the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)981/17-18(07)); and</p> <p>(b) a paper on the policies regarding the planning for provision of welfare facilities in land development projects and land sale projects for private developers.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

Loopholes of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme according to Hon SHIU Ka-chun

- (1) the standard payment rates of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme are insufficient to meet basic needs;
- (2) the CSSA mechanism lacks transparency and the participation of society;
- (3) the medical assessment mechanism fails to identify persons who have difficulties taking up employment;
- (4) the rent allowance is inadequate to cover rental of private housing;
- (5) CSSA recipients are stigmatized;
- (6) elderly persons are required to apply for CSSA on a household basis;
- (7) the asset threshold for elderly CSSA is too high;
- (8) the raising of the eligible age for elderly CSSA;
- (9) family members cannot afford to support elderly CSSA recipients to acquire residential care services with better quality;
- (10) persons with disabilities are required to apply for CSSA on a household basis;
- (11) the asset threshold for persons with disabilities under the CSSA Scheme is too high;
- (12) the rent allowance is insufficient for persons with disabilities to rent suitable housing;
- (13) the grant to cover costs of medical, rehabilitation, surgical appliances and hygienic items is insufficient to cover the costs of newer appliances and items;
- (14) the special diet allowance is insufficient to cater for the needs of different groups;
- (15) able-bodied CSSA recipients are not eligible for:
 - (i) basic housing and related grant such as grant for rent deposit and domestic removal grant;
 - (ii) basic medical and rehabilitation grants;
 - (iii) grant to cover monthly telephone charges; and

- (iv) long-term supplement;
- (16) employment support services provided for CSSA recipients lack continuity;
- (17) the amounts of disregarded earnings ("DE") have not been adjusted for many years;
- (18) arrangements for DE fail to encourage children to provide financial support for their parents;
- (19) CSSA recipients are required to be on CSSA for not less than two months before they are eligible for DE benefits;
- (20) young persons who work for the first time have not been taken into account under the arrangement of disregarding the first month's total income earned from a new job by a CSSA recipient aged 15 or above; and
- (21) children from CSSA households do not have the opportunity to participate in extra curriculum activities.