

**Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services
Meeting on 30 October 2018**

**Briefing by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for
Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2018 Policy Address**

Supplementary Information

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on 30 October 2018, policy initiatives of the Labour and Welfare Bureau and Home Affairs Bureau in the 2018 Policy Address were discussed. Members requested the Government to provide the following information after the meeting -

- (i) information on the waiting situation of the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) and the geographical distribution of the additional 2 000 service quota provided within 2019 under EHCCS; and
- (ii) the formula for setting the current level of incentive payment for sheltered workshop users.

This note provides the requested information.

Item (i)

2. Frail elderly persons who have been confirmed as moderately or severely impaired under the Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services can wait for Integrated Home Care Services (Frail Cases) (IHCS(FC)) and/or EHCCS. As at end-December 2018, there were around 7 800 elderly persons waitlisting for IHCS(FC) and/or EHCCS, with the average waiting time being 18 months.

3. As regards the additional 2 000 service quota under EHCCS planned to be provided within 2019, the Government will determine their geographical distribution after considering factors including the supply and demand in individual districts, service boundary coverage and operational conditions of the existing 34 service teams, the overall condition of home care services provided

for frail elderly persons, etc.

Item (ii)

4. Adjustment to incentive payment¹ is made based on the formula endorsed by the Finance Committee of the then Legislative Council in April 1974:

$$\frac{\text{Current Annual Average Consumer Price Index (A) (CPI(A))}^2}{\text{Last Revised Annual Average CPI(A)}} \times \text{Current Rate} = \text{Revised Rate}$$

The rate of incentive payment will be adjusted whenever there is an increase of more than 20% in the CPI(A).

5. With adjustment made in November 2014, the current rate of incentive payment is \$26.5 per day. From July 2014³ to October 2018, the CPI(A) has increased by around 14%, which is below the adjustment threshold. The Social Welfare Department will keep in view the increase in the annual CPI(A), and will propose adjustment to incentive payment accordingly when the increase in the CPI(A) reaches 20%.

**Labour and Welfare Bureau
Social Welfare Department
March 2019**

¹ The incentive payment aims to encourage persons with disabilities (including service users of sheltered workshops) to participate in vocational rehabilitation training activities.

² The original index adopted for calculation (i.e. the Modified Consumer Price Index) has become obsolete long ago and been replaced by the CPI(A).

³ The last adjustment to incentive payment was made by using the annual average CPI(A).