

**Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services  
Meeting on 22 February 2019**

**Support for carers of elderly persons and of persons with disabilities**

**Supplementary Information**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on 22 February 2019, the support for carers of elderly persons and of persons with disabilities was discussed. Members requested the Government to provide the following information in writing after the meeting -

- (i) the numbers of frail singleton and doubleton elderly families;
- (ii) the number of elderly persons aged above 60 who were taking care of persons with disabilities; and
- (iii) the numbers of full-time carers of frail elderly persons and persons with disabilities respectively, together with a breakdown of the numbers by the nature of relationship (e.g. spouses, sons/daughters and domestic helpers).

This note provides the requested information.

**Item (i)**

2. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) does not keep information on the numbers of frail singleton and doubleton elderly families.

**Item (ii)**

3. The SWD does not keep information on the number of elderly persons aged above 60 who were taking care of persons with disabilities in Hong Kong. Nonetheless, as at 30 June 2019, there were 503 carers who were elderly persons aged 60 or above<sup>1</sup> taking care of persons with disabilities under the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low-income Carers of Persons with Disabilities (Pilot Scheme on Carers of Persons with Disabilities).

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<sup>1</sup> Calculation is based on the age of the applicant at the time of submitting the application.

**Item (iii)**

4. The SWD does not keep information on the numbers of full-time carers of frail elderly persons and of persons with disabilities in Hong Kong. Nonetheless, as at 30 June 2019, there were 5 694 carers of elderly persons and 2 298 carers of persons with disabilities under the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families (Pilot Scheme on Carers of Elderly Persons) and the Pilot Scheme on Carers of Persons with Disabilities respectively. Amongst these carers, 3 344 carers of elderly persons and 1 521 carers of persons with disabilities reported that they had no work income. The breakdowns by relationship between the elderly persons/persons with disabilities being taken care of and their carers are as follows:

*(a) Pilot Scheme on Carers of Elderly Persons – Relationship between the elderly persons being taken care of and their carers*

<b>Relationship between the elderly persons being taken care of and their carers</b>	<b>Number of elderly persons being taken care of</b>
(i) Parent	<b>2 060</b>
(ii) Spouse	<b>1 107</b>
(iii) In-law	<b>206</b>
(iv) Grandparent	<b>27</b>
(v) Sibling	<b>42</b>
(vi) Friend	<b>16</b>
(vii) Other Relative	<b>20</b>
(viii) Neighbour	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 479<sup>2</sup></b>

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<sup>2</sup> Since one carer may take care of a maximum of two elderly persons under the Pilot Scheme on Carers of Elderly Persons, the total number of elderly persons being taken care of is more than the number of carers (which is 3 344).

***(b) Pilot Scheme on Carers of Persons with Disabilities – Relationship between the persons with disabilities being taken care of and their carers***

<b>Relationship between the persons with disabilities being taken care of and their carers</b>	<b>Number of persons with disabilities being taken care of</b>
(i) Child	<b>1 369</b>
(ii) Parent	<b>28</b>
(iii) Spouse	<b>51</b>
(iv) In-law	<b>3</b>
(v) Grandparent	<b>2</b>
(vi) Grandchild	<b>18</b>
(vii) Sibling	<b>62</b>
(viii) Friend	<b>3</b>
(ix) Other Relative	<b>9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 545<sup>3</sup></b>

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

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<sup>3</sup> Since one carer may take care of a maximum of two persons with disabilities under the Pilot Scheme on Carers of Persons with Disabilities, the total number of persons with disabilities being taken care of is more than the number of carers (which is 1 521).