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**Panel on Welfare Services**

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat  
for the meeting on 11 March 2019**

**Provision of relocation allowance for poor households**

According to the Administration, the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") provides domestic removal grant under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme and one-off relocation allowance under the Pilot Scheme on Relocation Allowance for Beneficiaries of the Community Housing Movement ("the Pilot Scheme") to eligible households for covering relocation expenses.

Domestic removal grant under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme

2. The CSSA Scheme provides a safety net for those who cannot support themselves financially. Under this Scheme, SWD provides different standard rates, supplements and special grants according to the number of household members and their circumstances.

3. Domestic removal grant is one of the special grants payable to CSSA recipients who are elderly, disabled or in ill-health, with a view to covering the expenses incurred in moving to public housing, interim housing, private housing, Housing for Senior Citizens, institutions for the elderly or residential care homes for persons with disabilities. It is paid on a flat-rate basis depending on the type of accommodation the CSSA recipients will move into and the number of eligible household members. Moreover, for eligible households moving to public housing or interim housing, the grant covers removal cost, basic fitting-out expenses and telephone installation fees. For eligible households moving to Housing for Senior Citizens, the grant covers the costs of removal, telephone installation and essential household items in connection with the removal.

Pilot Scheme on Relocation Allowance for Beneficiaries of the Community Housing Movement

4. A three-year Pilot Scheme was launched by the Community Care Fund in December 2017 to provide subsidy for households benefiting from the Community Housing Movement<sup>1</sup> to pay for removal expenses. Under the Pilot Scheme, each eligible household will receive a one-off relocation allowance from SWD according to the household size. The amount of allowance is \$3,076 for a one-person household, \$7,028 for a two-to-three-person household and \$9,263 for a four-or-more-person household. The Pilot Scheme is expected to benefit about 1 000 households.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
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<sup>1</sup> The Community Housing Movement was launched by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service in October 2017 through soliciting idle or under-utilized private housing resources held by the Urban Renewal Authority, private developers or ordinary landlords, with a view to providing short-term accommodation and support services to individuals or families in need of transitional housing.