

LegCo Panel on Welfare Services
List of issues to be considered

1. Review of the rapid expansion of the Social Welfare Department and its role in provision of direct social services

The subject was last discussed at the meeting on 9 May 1997 during which members expressed concern about the division of work between SWD and NGOs in the provision of social welfare services and the allocation of resources to SWD and NGOs for providing new services. Mr LAW Chi-kwong has proposed to further discuss this item at a future meeting.

2. Review of School Social Work Service

The subject was last discussed at the meeting on 14 June 1999. The Administration agreed on a package of improvement measures to enhance the provision of school social work service, including the provision of one full-time school social worker post in each secondary school. Resources required for implementing the proposal in existing schools and new schools in 1999/2000 will be provided from redeploying resources from existing youth services. A joint Panel meeting with the Home Affairs Panel would be held on **12 July 1999** on the effect of the proposal on youth services.

3. Portable Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (PCSSA) Scheme

Mr LAW Chi-kwong proposed to discuss the "Hong Kong Red Cross Report on the Operation of the PCSSA Scheme and Recommendation for the Review of the Scheme". Discussion of the item has been deferred at the request of the Administration. Mr LAW has provided an analysis of the proposals relating to medical services for the elderly CSSA recipients living on the Mainland to facilitate discussion.

Scheduled for discussion on **12 July 1999**

4. CSSA and SSA - annual inflation adjustment of standard payment rates

The subject was discussed at the special meeting on 2 July 1999. At the meeting, a majority of members did not support the proposed change in the inflation adjustment mechanism and asked the Administration to consider other viable options.

5. Review of the Subvention System - contracting out of services

The subject was last discussed at the meeting on 10 May 1999. The Administration agreed to provide an assessment on the operation of the meal service some time after the contracting out arrangements were effected.

6. Social Networking for the Elderly Project

The Report of the Evaluation Study on the Project was last discussed at the meeting on 1 February 1999. The Administration agreed to provide a progress report by September 1999 which would include explanations as to why the manpower of the Support Teams was adequate to serve the singleton elderly in need.

7. CSSA - review of requirements of disregarded earnings

The subject was last discussed at the meeting on 14 June 1999. The Administration is conducting a review on the requirements which is expected to be completed by September 1999.

8. Active Employment Assistance (AEA) Programme

The subject was last discussed at the meeting on 12 April 1999. The Administration would provide a progress report on the implementation of the AEA programme to the Panel by September 1999.

9. Inclusion of value of owner-occupied residential properties into assessment of asset for single parent CSSA recipients with youngest child aged below 15

A deputation met Duty Roster Members at a meeting on 25 May 1999 expressing their concerns on the above subject. The matter had been subsequently referred to this Panel for follow-up.

Scheduled for discussion on **12 July 1999**.