

Panel on Welfare Services

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 14 April 2005)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
<p>1. Standardized needs assessment tool for admission to residential homes for people with disabilities</p>	<p>5 January 2004</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide the following information -</p> <p>(a) What was the estimated cost for providing residential homes for people with disabilities (PWD) after the implementation of the Assessment Tool, and how would that compare with the existing cost for providing the same;</p> <p>(b) Whether, and if so, how the occupancy situation of the various types of residential homes for PWD and the manpower requirement concerned would be changed after the implementation of the Assessment Tool;</p> <p>(c) What would be the waiting time for PWD to admit to residential homes vis-a-vis that under the existing arrangements; and</p> <p>(d) How long would an assessment for admission to residential homes for PWD take.</p>	<p>(a) & (b) The Assessment Tool was implemented on 1 January 2005. We will review its effectiveness one year after implementation and report back to the Panel in 1st quarter 2006.</p> <p>(c) The Administration's response already issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1181/03-04(02) on 7 February 2004.</p> <p>(d) Ditto.</p>

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2. Efficiency savings	8 March 2004	The Administration was requested to provide information on the changes in the staff and salary structures of NGOs on the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) funding arrangement since their switching to LSG until to date.	The Consultant has finished its final report on the NGOs' need for financial assistance after the "Tide-over Period". The Administration is now consulting the welfare sector on the arrangement after the termination of the Tide-Over Grant in 2006-07.
3. The provision of disregarded earnings (DE) under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme	13 April 2004	The Administration was requested to expeditiously review the measure of allowing no DE for all categories of recipients in the initial determination of eligibility and in cases which had been on CSSA for less than three months.	The results of the review are expected to be available in late 2005.

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4. Briefing by the Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food	8 November 2004	The Administration undertook to seek the advice of the Social Welfare Advisory Committee on the reviews to be undertaken on the CSSA Scheme and the need for a second safety net, and to keep members informed on its consideration.	The Administration is seeking the advice of the Social Welfare Advisory Committee Working Group on CSSA on the specific reviews of the CSSA Scheme set out in the 2005 Policy Agenda, and will consult the Sub Committee on Review of CSSA of the LegCo Panel on Welfare Services in due course.
5. Provision of infirmary care for elders in a non-hospital setting	13 December 2004	The Administration undertook to provide more details of the tender exercise before the next meeting, including the criteria used in selecting operators to run the trial scheme, justification(s) for inviting private home operators to participate in the exercise, and the reason(s) for setting the unit subsidy for each subsidised infirmary bed in a non-hospital setting as around \$11,000 before the next meeting.	The Administration is further discussing the proposed trial scheme with the sector, and will revert when ready.
6. Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) - Progress Report as at 20 December 2004	10 January 2005	The Administration undertook to convey members' concerns about the limitations posed by the Co-operative Societies Ordinance (Cap. 33) on the formation of co-operatives to the relevant parties within the Administration for consideration.	The Administration has conveyed members' concerns to relevant parties for consideration. They are looking into the issue and would revert to the Panel in due course.

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7. Support and assistance for tetraplegic patients living in the community	18 February 2005	The Administration was requested to seriously consider adopting a social insurance scheme for people with disabilities.	This will be put to consideration by the Working Group on the Rehabilitation Programme Plan 2005. The Administration will report in due course on the Working Group's deliberation.
8. Conversion of self-care (S/C) hostel and home for the aged (H/A) places into care and attention places providing continuum of care	14 March 2005	<p>The Administration was requested -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) to provide further information on how the conversion exercise would impact on the existing staff of the 75 homes operating S/C and H/A places; (b) to provide its plan on providing long term care for the elderly in the medium and long terms, including financing for residential care services for the elderly; and (c) to re-consider including the staff unions concerned in its Task Group set up last year to work out the conversion arrangements. 	<p>Social Welfare Department (SWD) will know which of the 75 homes operating self-care and home for the aged places will not participate in the conversion exercise by June/July 2005. When this is known, SWD will assess the implications of this on the staff in those homes. The Administration will let Members know SWD's assessments when available.</p> <p>The Administration will provide Members with the outcome of the survey on the long term care needs of elders when available. The Administration aim to</p>

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			<p>report progress on the work relating to the feasibility of developing the proposed Fee Assistance Scheme for residential care services for frail elders in the 3rd quarter of 2005.</p> <p>The Administration will continue to meet the staff unions to explain to them the proposed conversion arrangements, and listen to their concerns.</p>