

Panel on Welfare Services

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 7 June 2007)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. 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 subsidized infirmary bed in a non-hospital setting as around \$11,000.	The Administration is considering the best way to provide infirmary care to elders in a non-hospital setting on a trial basis, in the light of feedback from Panel members and the sector during the consultation process. The Administration aims to report progress to the Panel in the 3 rd /4 th quarter of 2007.

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
<p>2. Conversion of self-care (S/C) hostel and home for the aged (H/A) places into care and attention places providing continuum of care</p>	<p>14 March 2005</p>	<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>The Social Welfare Department (SWD) launched Stage I of the conversion programme in June 2005 and Stage II in June 2006. By now, 40 homes have commenced conversion. Upon completion of the vetting of conversion proposals in respect of the remaining homes, SWD will be in a better position to assess the implications of the conversion on the staff in the homes concerned.</p> <p>The Administration will report progress on the work relating to the feasibility of developing the proposed Fee Assistance Scheme for residential care services for frail elders when ready.</p> <p>The Administration met the staff unions in April 2005, February 2006 and March 2007, and will continue to maintain dialogue with them as appropriate.</p>

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<p>3. Implementation of the Integrated Family Service Centre Model and closure of time-limited Single Parent Centres</p>	<p>9 May 2005</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to revert to members on considerations whether to re-open the Single Parent Centres after the completion of its review on the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) in one year's time.</p>	<p>Full implementation of the transformation of IFSCs was completed in 2004-2005. The Administration will review the effectiveness of the operation of IFSCs in 2007-2008.</p>
<p>4. Progress report on the standardized assessment mechanism for residential services for people with disabilities</p>	<p>21 March 2006</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to include representative from the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) in the Review Working Group on Standardized Assessment Mechanism for Residential Services for People with Disabilities and to increase the number of representatives from parents' groups in the Review Working Group.</p> <p>The Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food was requested to come up with ways to solve the existing lack of premises for providing residential services for people with disabilities.</p>	<p>The Administration will include representative from the HKCSS and invite more representatives from parents' groups to the future Review Working Group meetings.</p> <p>The Bureau will consider appropriate measures to identify and acquire suitable premises/sites for providing residential services to people with disabilities and will report to LegCo in due course.</p>

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
<p>5. Assistance to elderly not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA)</p>	<p>8 June 2006</p>	<p>The Administration was requested –</p> <p>(a) to provide a paper setting out the relevant figures to substantiate its saying that a pay-as-you-go retirement protection scheme was not feasible; and</p> <p>(b) to consult employees in Hong Kong on whether they were willing to allocate part of their MPF contributions, say 50%, to a pool for distribution to the current cohort of elders, on the understanding they too would receive a monthly sum of some \$2,500 in their old age.</p>	<p>The Administration is collating the requisite information and aims to provide a paper once ready.</p>
<p>6. Progress of the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged (PFD)</p>	<p>11 December 2006</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on the number of disadvantaged persons who had been offered employment after joining the approved projects under PFD and their respective wage levels.</p>	<p>The Administration would provide the information when ready.</p>
<p>7. Trust Fund for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)</p>	<p>8 January 2007</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide an interim report on the latest situation of the SARS patients before the end of the current LegCo term.</p>	<p>The Administration will provide the report in due course.</p>
<p>8. Evaluation study of the re-engineered neighbourhood elderly centres and district elderly community centres</p>	<p>12 February 2007</p>	<p>At the Panel meeting on 12 February 2007, members passed a motion urging the Administration to formulate a five-year plan on services for the elderly.</p>	<p>The Administration noted the motion, and is considering the way forward.</p>

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
9. Review of barrier-free access design manual 1997	12 March 2007	The Administration was requested to provide the finalized version of the revised Design Manual to the Panel for information.	The Administration would provide the information when available.
10. Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS)	12 April 2007	The Administration was requested to expedite the plan to extend the pilot CCDS to other districts and report the implementation progress to the Panel.	The Administration noted members' request and will report the progress when ready.
11. Review of the system for processing applications for Disability Allowance (DA) under the Social Security Allowance Scheme	14 May 2007	At the Panel meeting on 14 May 2007, members passed a motion urging the Administration to improve the appeal mechanism for DA, including prescribing a timeframe for processing appeals, and to conduct an independent and transparent review on the mechanism.	The Administration noted the motion.
12. Proposed review mechanism for fatal child abuse cases and child protection	14 May 2007	At the Panel meeting, members passed a motion urging the Administration to establish an independent statutory Commission on Children and to make various improvement measures to the pilot project on child fatality review.	<p>The Administration noted the motion, and is considering the way forward.</p> <p>Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG moved a motion debate on the establishment of a Commission on Children at the Council meeting of 6 June 2007. The Secretary for Home Affairs has provided a response to the motion at the meeting.</p>