

立法會
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Panel on Welfare Services

**Subcommittee on Residential and Community Care Services
for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly**

**Minutes of the sixth meeting
held on Tuesday, 13 July 2010, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Members present : Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Chairman)
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Sing-chi
Hon IP Wai-ming, MH
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Member absent : Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC

Public Officers attending : Items I and II

Mr CHEUNG Hing-wah
Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services)

Item I

Mrs Helen KWOK LI Mung-yee
Chief Social Work Officer
(Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services)
Social Welfare Department

Ms Margaret TAY
Chief Manager (Integrated Care Programs)
Hospital Authority

Item II

Ms PANG Kit-ling
Chief Social Work Officer
(Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services)¹
Social Welfare Department

Clerk in attendance : Miss Betty MA
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

Staff in attendance : Ms Yvonne YU
Senior Council Secretary (2) 5

Miss Maggie CHIU
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

Action

I. Implementation of the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness ("ICCMW")

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1986/09-10(01) to (02)]

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. Members supported in general the setting up of the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness ("ICCMW") to provide one-stop community health support services to discharged mental patients, persons with suspected mental health problems, their families and carers and residents living in the community, as well as the launch of the pilot case management programme ("CMP") to provide timely support for patients with severe mental illness living in the community. Members, however, were concerned about the plan for extending the new initiatives to all the districts.

3. Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services) ("DD/SW(S)") advised that the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") would consolidate the existing resources of community support services at an annual funding allocation of about \$65 million, together with an additional annual provision of about \$70 million, i.e. a total of \$135 million, to revamp the existing community support services, including Community Mental Health Intervention Project, Community Mental Health Link, Community Mental Health Care Services, Community Rehabilitation Day Services and Training and Activity Centres for Ex-mentally Ill Persons, and set up ICCMWs in all the 18 districts in 2010-2011.

Action

4. Chief Manager (Integrated Care Programs) of Hospital Authority ("CM(ICP)/HA") advised that subject to the evaluation of the pilot CMP and the recruitment of adequate professionals with experience in mental health services (such as psychiatric nurses and allied health professionals) to serve as case managers, HA planned to roll it out to other districts in 2011-2012 and 2012-2013.

5. Responding to members' concern about the effectiveness of CMP in providing timely support for patients with severe mental illness, CM(ICP)/HA said that each patient covered by CMP had a designated case manager. The case manager would maintain a close service relationship with the patient throughout the recovery journey, coordinate and arrange for the delivery of appropriate services to the patient. At the same time, the case manager would monitor the progress of recovery and make prompt arrangements for the patient to receive treatment if there was a sign of relapse. Case managers, who would be recruited from psychiatric nurses and allied health professionals with relevant experience, would work closely with a multi-disciplinary team of healthcare personnel including social workers to develop an individual care plan for each patient. The case managers would be provided with structured training on case management through intensive classroom teaching, workshops and practicum with supervision.

6. Members noted that a two-level collaboration and co-ordination platforms at the headquarters and district levels had been set up to develop strategies and enhance co-ordination in handling issues related to mental health services. Mr Alan LEONG sought more information about the operation of the communication mechanism in place.

7. DD/SW(S) said that at the headquarters level, a Central Coordinating Group on Community Mental Health Support Services ("CCG"), co-chaired by SWD and HA and comprising representatives of the medical and welfare sectors, including ICCMW operators, was formed early this year and had since then held one meeting to oversee collaboration strategies arising from the implementation of the ICCMW service. With a view to enhancing cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration at district level for effective delivery of CMP and ICCMW services, District Task Groups on Community Mental Health Support Services ("DTGs") were set up in Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing and Yuen Long, to be followed by other SWD districts later this year. DTGs, co-chaired by the respective District Social Welfare Officers and HA's cluster heads of psychiatric services and comprising representatives of ICCMW and concerned government departments were tasked to develop strategies and resolve operational issues in respective districts. Each DTC had held its first meeting.

Admin

8. To facilitate follow-up of the issue at future meetings, Mr Alan LEONG requested the Administration to provide a paper outlining the strategies and mechanism for cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration for delivery of community mental health support services, together with the number of meetings held by CCG and DTGs and the agenda items of these meetings.

Action

9. In view of the high public expectation of the service mode of ICCMW and CMP, the Chairman considered that adequate resources and staffing should be provided for the service providers and the service requirements should be stipulated in the relevant funding and service agreements. In addition, the Administration should be endeavour in identifying suitable premises for setting up ICCMWs across the territory. The Chairman added that enhanced and close co-operation of the medical and the welfare sectors was necessary for effective delivery of community support services for ex-mentally ill persons.

II. Update on Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1986/09-10(01) and (03), and CB(2)2073/09-10(01)]

10. Members supported the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities ("the Scheme"), and took the view that the Scheme should be expanded to cover all eligible persons with severe disabilities in the 18 districts expeditiously. Some members considered that the Scheme should be extended to all persons with severe disabilities, irrespective of whether they were on the waiting lists for subvented residential care services.

11. DD/SW(S) advised that the Scheme sought to facilitate persons with disabilities ("PWDs") for their continued living at home while waiting for subvented residential care services, and help relieve stress of their family carers. It would be tested out in Tuen Mun and Kwun Tong, serving about 540 persons with severe disabilities. Of them, about 70% was on the waiting list for Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons, 10% for Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons, and 10% for Care and Attention Home for Severely Disabled Persons. An overall review of the Scheme would be conducted before the expiry of the pilot period to assess its long-term feasibility.

12. Noting that the Scheme was implemented on a three-year pilot basis, Mr TAM Yiu-chung and Mr WONG Sing-chi were concerned about the way forward for the Scheme.

13. DD/SW(S) advised that the Government had earmarked \$163 million under the Lotteries Fund ("LF") to implement the Scheme for three years on a pilot basis. It was the established arrangement to secure funding under LF for pilot welfare initiatives. As explained earlier, SWD would conduct a mid-term review to monitor the progress and refine the operational details as appropriate after launching of the Scheme. An overall review would be conducted before the expiry of the pilot period to assess its long-term feasibility. Should the review findings be encouraging, the Administration would consider bidding necessary funding for the projects on a longer term and extending the Scheme to other districts after the three-year pilot period.

Action

III. Any other business

14. The Chairman said that the Subcommittee would schedule the next meeting in around September 2010 to discuss the review of Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for the Elderly Services.

15. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:40 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
12 November 2010

**Proceedings of the sixth meeting of the
Subcommittee on Residential and Community Care Services
for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly
on Tuesday, 13 July 2010, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda item 1 – Implementation of the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness</i>			
000000 - 001053	Chairman Administration Hospital Authority ("HA")	Briefing by the Administration on the implementation of the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness ("ICCMW") [Paragraphs 8 to 17 of LC Paper No. CB(2)1986/09-10(01)]	
001054 - 001904	Chairman Mr LEE Cheuk-yan HA	<p>Acknowledging the effectiveness of the case management programme ("CMP") in providing timely support services for persons with severe mental illness living in the community, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan was concerned about the number of patients with severe mental illness in need of such service, and when CMP would be extended to all districts over the territory</p> <p>The Chairman's enquiry about the timetable of launching CMP for persons with severe mental illness in all the 18 districts</p> <p>HA's responses that -</p> <p>(a) at present, around 40 000 persons were diagnosed with severe mental illness (such as psychosis) at different stages of rehabilitation; and</p> <p>(b) subject to the evaluation of the pilot CMP and the recruitment of adequate professionals with experience in mental health services (such as psychiatric nurses and allied health professionals) to serve as case managers, HA planned to roll it out to other districts in 2011-2012 and 2012-2013</p>	
001905 - 002413	Mr TAM Yiu-chung Administration HA	<p>Mr TAM Yiu-chung's concern about the progress and effectiveness of the inter-departmental working group in early identification and referral of persons with suspected mental health problems residing in the community for appropriate follow-up, and the number of cases handled by each case manager under CMP</p> <p>The Administration and HA's responses that -</p> <p>(a) in order to strengthen the community support to persons with mental health problems, the Social Welfare Department ("SWD"), HA, non-governmental organisations and other concerned government departments had set up cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration platforms at the headquarters and district levels to discuss issues on community mental health support services including early identification and referral of persons with mental health problems for timely</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>support and treatment. Currently the suspected mentally ill cases would be referred to the Integrated Family Service Centres for preliminary assessment. On service implementation, the ICCMW would assist in providing one-stop support services; and</p> <p>(b) the caseload of each case manager under CMP would be about 50</p>	
002414 - 003830	Mr WONG Sing-chi Administration HA	<p>Mr WONG Sing-chi's concern about the difficulties in identifying hidden cases of persons with mental health problems in the community, ways to enhance publicity to eradicate discrimination against mental patients as well as training provided to frontline social workers of ICCMW</p> <p>The Administration's responses -</p> <p>(a) SWD and HA had launched a number of community-based programmes for early identification of persons with suspected mental health problems. With the launch of the pilot ICCMW in March 2009, the one-stop service mode could enable ICCMW to flexibly adopt the triage system in case management, thereby facilitating early identification of potential risks of individual cases and the provision of appropriate services. ICCMW also maintained close liaison with HA for urgent medical consultation to meet the varying needs of people with mental health problems;</p> <p>(b) the pilot ICCMW had held seminars to enhance public understanding and acceptance of persons with mental problems to integrate into the community; and</p> <p>(c) the Administration had provided various training for frontline social workers to meet their specific operational needs</p>	
003831 - 005137	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Chairman HA Administration	<p>Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung's concern about the appointment interval with each case manager, the difficulties faced by psychiatric nurses in serving as case managers and the emergency support for mental patients during non-office hours</p> <p>The Administration and HA's responses that -</p> <p>(a) the case manager would maintain a close relationship with the patient throughout the recovery journey, coordinate and arrange for the delivery of appropriate services to the patient. He/she would at the same time monitor the progress of recovery and make prompt arrangements for the patient to receive treatment if there was a sign of relapse. It was expected that each case manager would meet with high risk patients once a week;</p>	

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		<p>(b) case managers would work closely with a multi-disciplinary team of healthcare personnel including social workers to develop an individual care plan for each patient. They would be provided with structured training on case management through intensive classroom teaching, workshops and practicum with supervision; and</p> <p>(c) urgent support services could be accessed through the emergency hotline after office hours, which was proven effective</p>	
005138 - 010636	Mr Alan LEONG Administration Chairman	<p>Issues raised by Mr Alan LEONG -</p> <p>(a) inadequate resources were provided for support services for persons with mental health problems in the community; and</p> <p>(b) effectiveness of the Central Coordinating Group on Community Mental Health Support Services ("CCG") and District Task Groups on Community Mental Health Support Services ("DTGs") in enhancing the cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration for effective delivery of services</p> <p>The Administration responses that -</p> <p>(a) SWD would consolidate the existing resources of community support services at an annual funding allocation of about \$65 million, together with an additional annual provision of about \$70 million, i.e. a total of \$135 million, to revamp the existing community support services, including Community Mental Health Intervention Project, Community Mental Health Link, Community Mental Health Care Services, Community Rehabilitation Day Services and Training and Activity Centres for Ex-mentally Ill Persons, and set up ICCMWs in all the 18 districts in 2010-2011;</p> <p>(b) at the headquarters level, CCG co-chaired by SWD and HA and comprising representatives of the medical and welfare sectors, including ICCMW operators, had been formed early this year and had since held one meeting to oversee collaboration strategies arising from the implementation of the ICCMW service; and</p> <p>(c) with a view to enhancing cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration at district level for effective delivery of CMP and ICCMW services, DTGs had been set up in Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing and Yuen Long, to be followed by other SWD districts later this year. DTGs, co-chaired by the respective District Social Welfare Officers and HA's cluster heads of psychiatric services and comprising representatives of ICCMW and concerned government departments were tasked to develop strategies and resolve operational issues in</p>	

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		<p>respective districts. Each DTC had held its first meeting</p> <p>Mr Alan LEONG's request for the Administration to provide a paper outlining the strategies and mechanism for enhancing cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration for delivery of community mental health support services, together with the number of meetings held by CCG and DTGs and the agenda items of these meetings</p>	<p>Admin</p>
010637 - 011433	Chairman Administration	<p>Views of the Chairman that -</p> <p>(a) adequate resources and staffing should be provided for service providers and the service requirements should be stipulated in the relevant funding and service agreement for delivery of the novel service model of ICCMW;</p> <p>(b) the Administration should be endeavour in identifying suitable premises for setting up ICCMWs over the territory; and</p> <p>(c) enhanced and close co-operation of the medical and the welfare sectors was necessary for effective delivery of community support services for ex-mentally ill persons</p>	
<i>Agenda item II – Update on Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities</i>			
011434 - 011913	Chairman Administration	Briefing by Administration on the progress of implementation of the new initiatives in community care and support services for persons with disabilities ("PWDs") [Paragraphs 4 to 7 of LC Paper No. CB(2)1986/09-10(01)]	
011914 - 012708	Chairman Mr TAM Yiu-chung Administration	<p>Mr TAM Yiu-chung's enquiry about the difference in the eligibility for the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Services for Frail Elders and the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities ("the Scheme") as far as elders with disabilities were concerned, and the way forward for the Scheme given that it was implemented on a three-year pilot basis.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that -</p> <p>(a) under the Scheme, persons with severe disabilities who were living in the community and on the waiting lists for subvented residential care services would be provided with a package of home-based support services to meet their care and rehabilitation needs, whereas the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Services for Frail Elders aimed to provide a package of intensive and tailor-made home care services for elders on the waiting list for subsidised nursing care home services. There were some 3% elders with severe disabilities living in the community; and</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>(b) the Government had earmarked \$163 million under the Lotteries Fund ("LF") to implement the Scheme for three years on a pilot basis. It was the established arrangement to secure funding under LF for pilot welfare initiatives. Mid-term and overall reviews of the Scheme would be conducted to monitor its operation and assess its effectiveness. Should the Scheme be proven effective, the Administration would consider bidding necessary funding for the projects on a longer term and extending the Scheme to other districts after the three-year pilot period</p>	
012709 - 014516	Mr WONG Sing-chi Administration	<p>Issues raised by Mr WONG Sing-chi -</p> <p>(a) the Scheme should be extended to all persons with severe disabilities across the territory, irrespective of whether they were on the waiting lists for subvented residential care services. To this end, the Administration should seek additional funding from LF, which was administered by SWD;</p> <p>(b) whether taking part in the Scheme would unduly prolong the waiting time for the subvented residential care services;</p> <p>(c) the Administration should draw up objective criteria for the reviews of the Scheme; and</p> <p>(d) the Administration should consider introducing a carer allowance to alleviate the burden of family members in taking care of PWDs at home or providing subsidy to PWDs for the employment of domestic helpers to enable them to live in the community</p> <p>The Administration's responses that -</p> <p>(a) it was mindful of the acute waitlisting situation of residential care services for persons with severe disabilities. The Scheme sought to facilitate PWDs' continued living at home while waiting for residential care services, and help relieve stress of their family carers. PWDs who joined the Scheme would remain on the waiting lists for subsidised residential care services;</p> <p>(b) grants were sought from LF for implementing the Scheme as it was pilot in nature. Should the review findings of the Scheme be encouraging, the Administration would consider financing the Scheme under the recurrent funding after the three-year pilot period; and</p> <p>(c) participants of the Scheme would be provided with a package of home-based support services to meet their care and rehabilitation needs, which were different from the personal care provided by domestic helpers</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
014517 - 015305	Chairman Administration Mr WONG Sing-chi	<p>The Chairman's enquiry about the breakdown of the target participants of the Scheme by the types of subvented residential care services that they were being waitlisted and the operational details of the Scheme.</p> <p>The Administration responds that -</p> <p>(a) the Scheme would be tested out in Tuen Mun and Kwun Tong, serving about 540 persons with severe disabilities. Of them, about 70% was on the waiting list for Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons, 10% for Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons, and 10% for Care and Attention Home for Severely Disabled Persons; and</p> <p>(b) the Scheme would be operated by two teams providing six-day service in a week. The participants could work out with the service providers on the arrangements on holidays, if such needs arose</p> <p>Mr WONG Sing-chi's view that consideration should be given to engaging the private sector in delivery of service under the Scheme</p>	
<i>Agenda item III – Any other business</i>			
015306 - 015420	Chairman Mr WONG Sing-chi	Date and discussion items of next meeting	