### 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)2659/10-11

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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 11<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Monday, 28 March 2011, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

**Members**: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (Chairman)

**present** Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC

Hon WONG Sing-chi Hon IP Wai-ming, MH Dr Hon PAN Pey-chyou Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

**Member** : Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

absent

Public Officers: Items I and II

attending

Mrs Cecilia YUEN

Assistant Director of Social Welfare

(Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services)

Ms Michelle LAM Wai-yip Chief Social Work Officer (Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services)1 Social Welfare Department

**Clerk in** : Miss Betty MA

attendance Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

**Staff in** : Ms Yvonne YU

**attendance** Senior Council Secretary (2) 4

Miss Maggie CHIU

Legislative Assistant (2) 4

Action

### I. Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities ("the Scheme")

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1307/10-11(01) to (02)]

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

- 2. <u>Members</u> generally supported the launch of the three-year Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities ("the Scheme") to try out a new package of home-based support services in Tuen Mun and Kwun Tong districts with the largest number of persons with severe disabilities waiting for subvented residential care services at Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons, Hostel for Severely Physically Handicapped Persons and Care and Attention Home for Severely Disabled Persons. Members reiterated the view that the launch of the Scheme could not be regarded as a substitute for the provision of subsidised residential care services.
- 3. Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Rehabilitation & Medical Social Services) ("ADSW(RMSS)") advised that the Administration was mindful of the acute waitlisting situation of residential care services for persons with severe disabilities. The Scheme sought to facilitate persons with severe disabilities to continue living at home while waiting for subsidised residential care services, and help relieve stress of their family carers. ADSW(RMSS) assured members that persons with severe disabilities who

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had joined the Scheme would remain on the waiting lists for subsidised residential care services. The Administration would conduct a mid-term review in 18 months to keep track of the progress and refine the operational details as appropriate after launching of the Scheme. A final review would be conducted before the expiry of the pilot period to assess the overall effectiveness and the long-term feasibility of the Scheme. 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.

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4. At the request of the Chairman, the Administration agreed to provide the service specification of the Scheme after the meeting.

## II. Progress of expansion of the service mode of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)839/10-11(01) and CB(2)1307/10-11(03) to (04)]

- 5. <u>Members</u> expressed support for the launch of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness ("ICCMW") service mode to provide one-stop and integrated community health support services to discharged mental patients, persons with suspected mental health problem, their families and carers and residents living in the district.
- 6. <u>Members</u> noted with concern that of the 24 service points operated by non-governmental organisations ("NGOs"), nine ICCMWs had yet to secure permanent accommodation. <u>Members</u> expressed grave concern about the progress of identifying suitable premises for setting up ICCMWs across the territory.
- 7. <u>ADSW(RMSS)</u> assured members that the Administration was mindful of the operational difficulties faced by ICCMW operators and would give flexibility to service operators to enable them to make optimal use of available resources under constrained circumstances. The Social Welfare Department ("SWD") would continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments in identifying suitable premises in new development or redevelopment housing projects, vacant government properties, school premises and public housing estates. SWD was also actively exploring the feasibility of supporting NGOs to set up temporary accommodation for use as ICCMWs at suitable commercial premises.
- 8. On the local opposition of setting up ICCMWs, <u>ADSW(RMSS)</u>

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assured members that the Administration would continue to organize service briefings and activities to enhance local residents' understanding of ICCMWs' service, and to enlist local support with a view to securing permanent accommodation for the remaining ICCMWs as soon as possible.

9. <u>The Chairman</u> was concerned whether ICCMWs would provide services to street sleepers with mental illness. At his request, <u>the Administration</u> would provide the Funding and Service Agreement of ICCMW for members' reference.

#### III. Any other business

10. The Chairman said that the House Committee had agreed that the newly formed Subcommittee on Improving Barrier Free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities under the Panel on Welfare Services, which was currently on the waiting list, could be activated after this Subcommittee had completed its work. As the Subcommittee had deliberated various areas of study in accordance with its work plan, members might wish to consider concluding the work of the Subcommittee and submitting a report to the Panel. He suggested that the Subcommittee would hold its last meeting in May 2011, with a view to following up all the outstanding issues with the Administration. Members agreed.

(*Post-meeting note*: The next Subcommittee meeting were held on 23 May 2011 at 2:30 pm.)

11. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:30 pm.

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 22 September 2011

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#### Proceedings of the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Subcommittee on Residential and Community Care Services for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly on Monday, 28 March 2011, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
Agenda item I – P	ilot Scheme on Home Care S	Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities	
000000 - 000307	Chairman Administration	Briefing by the Administration on the progress of implementing the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities ("the Scheme").  [LC Paper No. CB(2)1307/10-11(01)]	
000308 - 000451	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Administration	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung's enquiry about the implementation of and the service fees charged under the Scheme.	
		The Administration's advice that a monthly fee of \$988, which was comparable to the prevailing fee scale of the centre-based Day Care Services for Persons with Severe Disabilities, had been charged for a full package of services since the Scheme came into operation on 1 March 2011.	
000452 - 000831	Chairman Administration	The Chairman's enquiry about the funding allocation for the operating costs to the operators of the Scheme.	
		The Administration's advice that a phased implementation approach would be adopted under which the operators would receive funding for about 50% of eligible cases in the first phase, and about 80% in the fourth and fifth months. Full implementation was expected to start from the sixth month onwards, serving about 540 persons with severe disabilities in Kwun Tong and Tuen Mun.	
000832 - 001805	Mr WONG Sing-chi Chairman Administration	Mr WONG Sing-chi's enquiry about the selection and monitoring of the two service operators of the Scheme	
		The Administration's response -	
		(a) 12 non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") had submitted proposals and two NGOs, namely, the Christian Family Services Centre ("CFSC") and the Neighbourhood Active-Action Council ("NAAC") had been selected through a	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		competitive quality-based system to operate the Scheme in Kwun Tong and Tuen Mun respectively; and  (b) the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") would continue to monitor the service and operation of the Scheme and conduct a mid-term review in 18 months with a view to keeping a track of the progress and refining the operational details as appropriate. A final review would be conducted in 30 months to assess the overall effectiveness and long-term feasibility of the Scheme.  Mr WONG Sing-chi's suggestion that SWD should conduct regular visits to service users to assess the effectiveness of the operators in service delivery and the extent to which the service under the Scheme could meet the special needs of the users.	Admin to consider
001806 - 002606	Dr PAN Pey-chyou Administration	Dr PAN Pey-chyou's enquiry whether a set of performance indicators would be in place to assess the service standard, and the components of the full package of services  The Administration's response -  (a) SWD had worked in close collaboration with rehabilitation NGOs and relevant stakeholders in drawing up different qualitative service outcome indicators. The operators would be required to provide returns on the achievement of the outputs; and  (b) a monthly fee, which was capped at \$988, was charged for a full package of services which comprised about 76 hours of personal care and escort service, two visits by a physiotherapist ("PT")/occupational therapist ("OT") and one visit by a nurse. For service users who did not need a full package of services, they were given an option of charging at an hourly rate for the service. The actual types and hours of services for each user would be worked out jointly by the operators, the service users and their family members/carers.	
002607 - 003237	Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Chairman Administration	Views of Mr LEE Cheuk-yan -  (a) the provision of home care services under the Scheme was by no means a substitute for subsidised residential care services; and	

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		(b) instead of implementing the Scheme on a pilot basis, it should be expanded to cover all eligible persons with severe disabilities throughout the territory in one go.	•
		The Administration's response -	
		(a) the new home-based care services should not be regarded as a substitute for residential care services. Instead, the Scheme sought to facilitate persons with severe disabilities to continue living at home while waiting for subsidised residential care services, and help relieve the stress of their family carers. Persons with severe disabilities who joined the Scheme would remain on the waiting lists for subsidised residential care services; and	
		(b) a mid-term review would be conducted 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.	
003238 - 003900	Dr PAN Pey-chyou Administration	Issues raised by Dr PAN Pey-chyou -	
	Chairman	(a) whether a case management approach would be adopted to enhance the services under the Scheme;	
	(b)	(b) while the service users under the Scheme would remain on the waiting list for subsidised residential care places, whether an individual user could retain his position on the waiting list if he had declined immediate admission when he was offered a place on the ground that the home-based services under the Scheme could allow him to continue to stay at home for the time being; and	
		(c) whether service users of the Scheme could receive other subsidised home care services concurrently.	
		The Administration's response -	
		(a) a case management approach was adopted	

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		under the Scheme. A tailor-made package of home care services was delivered by a multi-disciplinary team comprising social workers, nurses, OTs and PTs to meet the specific care needs of individual service users;	
		(b) the Scheme sought to strengthen the home care services for persons with severe disabilities while waiting for subsidised residential care services. Scenarios cited by Dr PAN in (b) above would be considered in the light of individual circumstances of each case. Nevertheless, the Administration would review and refine the operational details in the mid-term review; and	
		(c) those who had joined the Scheme could continue to receive different types of community care services provided by other service operators.	
003901 - 005133	Chairman Administration	The Chairman's concern whether the staffing establishment of CFSC and NACC was adequate to meet the service needs in the event that all service users needed a full package of services under the Scheme.	
		The Administration's advice that in order to ensure that the Scheme could meet the special needs of persons with severe disabilities, SWD had collected views of service users, their family members/carers, referring workers and parents' associations on the service needs in the course of service planning, and then worked out a full package of services. The funding support would be able to cover the expected 540 service users receiving a full package of services. SWD would continue to monitor the operation of the Scheme and would refine the operational details including the service hours as appropriate.	
005134 - 010106	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Chairman Administration	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung's concern about the stress faced by family carers in taking care of persons with severe disabilities and cast doubt about the effectiveness of the Scheme to relieve the family carers' stress. The Administration should give due regard to the views and needs of family carers when conducting the review of the Scheme and provide the review findings to the Panel on Welfare Services.	
		The Administration's elaboration that the Scheme sought to provide a tailor-made package of home-based personal care and rehabilitation	

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		training and nursing care services for persons with severe disabilities in accordance with the specific care needs of service users to facilitate their continued living at home while waiting for subvented residential care services. In addition, support service was also provided to their family carers to relieve their stress.	
010107 - 010726	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Chairman Administration	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's reiteration that the launch of the Scheme could not replace the Government's responsibility to provide adequate subsidised residential care places to meet the service needs.	
		The Administration's advice that it was mindful of the acute waitlisting situation of residential care services and would continue to increase the supply of subvented residential care places. About 1 000 additional residential care places for persons with disabilities would be provided in the coming two years.	
010727 - 011258	Chairman Administration	The Chairman's concern that the actual number of service hours for each service users remained limited. At the Chairman's request, the Administration would provide the service specifications of the Scheme.	Admin to provide
Agenda item II –	Progress of expansion of t Wellness	the service mode of Integrated Community Centre	for Mental
011259 - 012130	Chairman Administration	Briefing by the Administration on the progress of implementation of the service mode of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness ("ICCMW") [LC Paper No. CB(2)1307/10-11 (03)]	
012131 - 013142	Dr PAN Pey-chyou	Issues raised by Dr PAN Pey-chyou -	
	Chairman Administration	(a) whether the Administration would explore the feasibility of retrofitting and converting industrial buildings into permanent accommodation for ICCMWs having regard to the high rental of commercial buildings;	
		(b) measures in place to eradicate the negative perception of ICCMWs with a view to soliciting support of local residents in setting up ICCMWs in the vicinity; and	
		(c) the role of PT services in ICCMWs	
		The Administration's response -	
		(a) According to the Fire Services Department,	

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		owing to fire safety concerns, setting up of ICCMWs industrial buildings was not allowed;	•
		(b) SWD was actively exploring the feasibility of supporting NGOs to set up temporary accommodation for use as ICCMWs at suitable commercial premises in Hunghom, Yuen Long and Shaukeiwan;	
		(c) ICCMWs sought to provide support services ranging from prevention to crisis management to discharged mental patients, persons with suspected mental health problems, their families and carers and residents living in the community. In order to alleviate the labelling effect, the Administration would continue to organise service briefings and activities to enhance local residents' understanding of ICCMWs' service; and	
		(d) considering the important roles played by OTs and PTs in the recovery process of mental patients as well as the demand of PTs in the welfare and rehabilitation sector, the manpower projection of PTs and OTs had been provided to the University Grants Committee for reference. It was expected that there would be an increase in the supply of PTs and OTs in 2016 to meet the manpower requirements.	
013143 - 013816	Chairman Administration	The Chairman's concern about the progress of identifying permanent premises for the 24 service points providing ICCMW services across the territory.	
		The Administration's advice -	
		(a) apart from the Wellness Centre in Tin Shui Wai which had secured permanent accommodation, five Training and Activity Centres for Ex-mentally Ill Persons in Wanchai, Kwun Tong, Shamshuipo, Shatin and Tuen Mun had been converted into ICCMWs;	
		(b) SWD had also secured two premises in public housing estates for ICCMWs in Hong Kong Island and Kowloon East, and a new development site in Tin Shui Wai for the ICCMW in Yuen Long;	
		(c) SWD had identified seven sites at public	

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		housing estates for the purpose, and was undertaking the necessary preparatory work which included consultation with the local communities to enlist support for setting up these service points; and	
		(d) for the remaining ICCMWs, SWD would continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments in identifying suitable premises in new development or redevelopment housing projects, vacant government properties, school premises and public housing units.	
013817 - 014007	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Chairman Administration	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung called on the Administration to formulate concrete plan to identify suitable premises for the remaining nine ICCMWs which had not yet secured suitable premises.	
014008 - 015410	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Chairman Administration	Issues raised by Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung -  (a) action plan should be drawn up to identify suitable premises for setting up ICCMW premises and to enhance public understanding and acceptance of ICCMWs;	
		(b) in the light of opposition from the local communities to set up ICCMWs, premises for ICCMWs should be secured at new development sites instead of identifying premises in existing public housing estates; and	
		(c) training should be provided to public housing estate staff to raise their alertness in handling residents with suspected mental health problems living in the community.	
		The Administration's response -	
		(a) SWD would continue to keep in close contact with relevant government departments including the Lands Department, the Planning Department, the Housing Department, etc. in order to reserve premises for ICCMW purpose at the planning stage of new development or redevelopment projects;	
		(b) to collaborate with the Case Management Programme under the Hospital Authority ("HA") to provide timely support services for persons with severe mental illness living in the community, District Task Groups	

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		("DTGs") had been set up in SWD's administrative districts and regular meetings had been held. DTGs, co-chaired by the respective District Social Welfare Officers and the HA's cluster heads of psychiatric services and comprised representatives of ICCMWs and concerned government departments (such as the Police and the Housing Department) aimed at enhancing cross-sectoral and cross-service collaboration at district level, and co-ordinating and rationalizing efforts in resolving operational problems encountered, thereby facilitating effective delivery of ICCMW services; and  (c) training programmes had been/would be organized to enhance the capabilities of the staff members concerned in handling cases relating to persons with mental health problems and to strengthen their collaboration with the case managers of HA.	
015411 - 015722	Chairman Administration	The Chairman's concern whether ICCMWs would provide services to street sleepers with mental health problems.  The Administration's response that ICCMW was a new service mode and had just commenced operation in October 2010, its service was currently focused at providing one-stop and integrated community health support services to discharged mental patients, persons with suspected mental health problem, their families/carers and residents living in the district. Nevertheless, some ICCMWs had been handling cases relating to street sleepers.  The Administration was requested to provide the Funding and Service Agreement of ICCMW.	Admin to provide
Agenda item III – Any other business			
015723 - 020000	Chairman	Work plan of the Subcommittee.	
		Date and discussion item of the next meeting	

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
22 September 2011