Legislative Council Subcommittee on Poverty

Community Care Fund

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the work progress of the Community Care Fund (CCF) and seeks Members’ views in this regard.

Background

2. The CCF is a trust fund established in early 2011 under the Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 1044) with the Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporated as its trustee. Its main objective is to provide assistance to people facing economic difficulties, in particular those who fall outside the social safety net or those within the safety net but have special circumstances that are not covered. In addition, the CCF may implement measures on a pilot basis to help the Government identify those that can be considered for incorporation into the Government’s regular assistance and service programmes.

3. The CCF has since 2013 been integrated into the work of the reinstated Commission on Poverty (CoP). The CCF Task Force, set up under the CoP as chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, is responsible for advising the CoP on the CCF’s various arrangements (including investment, finance and administrative operations), as well as the formulation of assistance programmes, the co-ordination and overseeing of the implementation of assistance programmes, and the

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1 The CoP was re-organised in December 2014. To deal with various issues more effectively, four task forces are set up under the second-term CoP to conduct in-depth study and deliberate on specific areas, namely the Community Care Fund Task Force, the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund Task Force, the Special Needs Groups Task Force and the Youth Education, Employment and Training Task Force.
reviewing of their effectiveness. The CCF Task Force will also liaise closely with other CoP task forces and provide mutual support, so as to draw up programmes to provide assistance to the underprivileged. The membership and terms of reference of the second-term CoP and the second-term CCF Task Force are at Annex 1.

4. The Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) approved the injection of $5 billion into the CCF in May 2011, and approved in July the same year an additional injection of $1.5 billion for implementing the programme to provide a one-off allowance of $6,000 to new arrivals\(^2\). The FC also approved in June 2013 an additional injection of $15 billion into the CCF to strengthen the poverty alleviation efforts.

**Work Progress**

**Assistance Programmes**

5. Since its establishment, the CCF has launched 27 assistance programmes under the medical, education, housing, welfare and home affairs areas for target beneficiary groups including children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, patients, new arrivals and ethnic minorities, etc. People outside the existing safety net or the coverage of the Government’s short-term relief measures have been identified and provided with assistance. The total commitments exceed $4.041 billion. As at end November this year, more than 850,000 person-times\(^3\) have benefited under these programmes, and the CCF has disbursed around $2.245 billion to various implementing agencies\(^4\). The latest progress of

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\(^2\) The FC approved on 18 July 2011 an additional injection of $1.5 billion into the CCF to implement the programme. The FC also agreed that the CCF should handle the injection separately from the existing funds of the CCF. Unused funds (including interest), if any, will be returned to the Government after the completion of the programme. As at now, $378 million has been returned to the Government.

\(^3\) Nearly 200,000 people have benefited under the programme to provide a one-off allowance of $6,000 to new arrivals.

\(^4\) Including the disbursements to beneficiaries and the staffing and administrative expenses of the implementing agencies.
the programmes is set out at Annex 2.

6. The CCF also implemented measures on a pilot basis to help the Government identify those initiatives that have been proven effective for incorporation into the regular assistance programme. Since its establishment in 2011, the ten pilot programmes below have been incorporated into the regular assistance programme:

   (1) The programme providing subsidy for needy patients of Hospital Authority who marginally fall outside the Samaritan Fund (SF) safety net for the use of SF subsidised drugs;

   (2) Financial Assistance for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland for taking language examinations;

   (3) Subsidy for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland participating in language courses;

   (4) Subsidy for Tenants Purchase Scheme flat owners on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA);

   (5) Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at whole-day primary schools for students from low-income families;

   (6) Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme;

   (7) Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level;

   (8) Training subsidy for children who are on the waiting list of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services;

   (9) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for renting respiratory support medical equipment; and

   (10) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for purchasing medical consumables related to respiratory
support medical equipment.

The above regularised programmes would involve an annual recurrent expenditure of about $800 million.

7. After briefing this Subcommittee on the work progress of the CCF in June this year, the CCF has re-launched/ rolled out the following five assistance programmes:

(1) **Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low income families**: This is a pilot scheme which aims at providing carers of elderly persons from low income families with a living allowance to help supplement their living expenses so that elderly persons in need of long term care can, under the help of their carers, receive proper care and remain living in the community. Under the two-year programme, each eligible carer will be disbursed with a monthly allowance of $2,000, or a maximum of $4,000 for those who take care of more than one elderly persons at the same time. The funding provision is $126 million and it is estimated that about 2,000 carers of elderly persons will benefit.

(2) **Providing hostel subsidy for needy undergraduate students**: This programme provides a subsidy for needy undergraduate students who are offered a hostel place to meet student hostel expenses, such that they are not denied hostel accommodation because of lack of means. Under the three-year programme, each eligible student will be disbursed with a maximum subsidy of $8,000 per year. The funding provision is $137 million and it is estimated that about 20,600 person-times will benefit.

(3) **Increasing the academic expenses grant under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students**: The programme aims at strengthening support for needy students pursuing locally-accredited self-financing post-secondary programmes to meet daily academic expenses through the disbursement of additional academic expenses grant.
Under the three-year programme, each eligible student will be disbursed with a maximum additional grant of $2,000 per year. The funding provision is $151 million and it is estimated that about 93,000 person-times will benefit.

(4) Re-launching the “Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing” programme: This programme provides a one-off subsidy to households living in rented private housing and paying rent which exceeds the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme. The subsidy for one-person households is $2,000 while that for two-or-more-person households is $4,000. The funding provision is $49.27 million and it is estimated that over 14,400 households will benefit.

(5) Re-launching the “One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA” programme: This programme provides a one-off subsidy to persons not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA (i.e. known colloquially as the “n have-nots”) to relieve their financial pressure. The subsidy is $4,000 for one-person households, $8,000 for two-person households, $11,000 for three-person households, and $13,000 for four-or-more-person households. The funding provision is $468.12 million and it is estimated that over 53,100 households (about 126,000 persons) will benefit. Applications for this programme will be accepted by phases starting from January 2015.

8. Through continuous review of the existing programmes, the CCF can also timely identify which programmes need to be revised or extended, so that the assistance can be provided in an effective manner. In this regard, the CCF extended the “Special care subsidy for the severely disabled” programme in November 2014, so as to provide persons with severe disabilities who are living in the community, requiring constant attendance and not receiving CSSA, with a special care subsidy for the purchase of care goods/services or for other purposes related to nursing care. The programme will provide eligible persons with severe disabilities with a subsidy for a maximum of 12 months.
Moreover, the CCF Task Force is now actively considering expanding the target beneficiaries of the “Elderly dental assistance programme” to persons who have financial difficulties and do not receive CSSA, for example, elderly persons who are Old Age Living Allowance recipients, taking into account factors such as the progress of the implementation, the experienced gained and the number of participating dentists.

Financial Position

9. Apart from the Government’s injection mentioned at paragraph 4 above, bank accounts have been opened to accept donations from the community. The amount of donations pledged, i.e. about $1.8 billion, has been received in full. A deposit of $15 billion in total has been placed with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) to earn an investment return that is linked to the performance of the Hong Kong Exchange Fund. The remaining amount of the CCF funding has been deposited with banks for Hong Kong dollar and Renminbi time deposit, so as to earn interest income and meet the cash flow requirements for financing assistance programmes and other liquidity needs.

10. As at end November this year, the balance of the CCF stood at around $20.564 billion, mainly including the placement of $15.938 billion (including the investment return of about $938 million) at the HKMA, as well as bank deposits of around $4.626 billion.

Consultation and Monitoring

11. As regards consultation, the CCF is planning to hold public consultation sessions again early next year to seek opinions on the formulation of assistance programmes. Also, focus group meetings on specific issues and public consultation sessions will continue to be held in order to gauge the views of the community and stakeholders on the work of the CCF, with a view to introducing more appropriate assistance programmes. The CCF always welcomes the public/ stakeholders to provide any ideas or suggestions through various channels, including the CCF website, letters, facsimiles, emails or telephone hotlines, etc. Ideas

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i.e. a placement of $5 billion in June 2011 and a placement of $10 billion in July 2013.
and suggestions received will be circulated to the CCF Task Force for reference.

12. Other task forces under the CoP are also looking into the needs of different disadvantaged groups (including students from low-income families, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, new arrivals and single-parent families, etc.) and considering whether the Government’s support for them is sufficient with a view to achieving poverty alleviation, reduction and prevention. The CoP will make use of the CCF to introduce pilot schemes where necessary.

13. The CoP and the CCF Task Force under the CoP will continue to monitor the implementation of various assistance programmes. Government departments and other organisations entrusted to implement the programmes are required to submit progress and financial reports regularly to the CCF Task Force for review of the programmes. Prior to launching brand-new programmes which are pilot in nature and funding provision of which is expected to exceed $100 million, the Government will consult this Subcommittee or the relevant Panels of the LegCo. We will continue to report regularly to this Subcommittee the financial position of the CCF and the implementation progress of its programmes every six months. Evaluation reports of the programmes will also be provided. Moreover, the information will be uploaded to the CCF website for easy reference by the public.

Advice Sought

14. Members are invited to note this paper and give views.

Home Affairs Bureau
December 2014
### Annex 1

**Second-term Commission on Poverty Membership**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupational/ Professional Background</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chairman</strong></td>
<td>Chief Secretary for Administration --</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Non-official Members</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Amy Chan Lim-chee, JP</td>
<td>Manager, Racing Development Board, The Hong Kong Jockey Club and Principal, Apprentice Jockeys’ School, The Hong Kong Jockey Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Sylvia Chan May-kuen</td>
<td>Principal, Ma On Shan Ling Liang Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms May Chan Suk-mei, BBS, JP</td>
<td>Director, News and Public Affairs Department, Commercial Radio Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Clement Chen Cheng-jen, SBS, JP (Chairperson of the Youth Education, Employment and Training Task Force)</td>
<td>Executive Director, Tai Hing Cotton Mill Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Henry Cheng Kar-shun, GBS</td>
<td>Chairman and Executive Director, New World Development Company Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon Cheung Kwok-che</td>
<td>Legislative Council Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Stephen Cheung Yan-leung, BBS, JP (Chairperson of the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund Task Force)</td>
<td>President, The Hong Kong Institute of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Chua Hoi-wai</td>
<td>Chief Executive, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Stephen Frederick Fisher, SBS</td>
<td>Director General, Oxfam Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
<td><strong>Occupational/ Professional Background</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon Frederick Fung Kin-kee, SBS, JP</td>
<td>Legislative Council Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ho Hei-wah, BBS</td>
<td>Director, Society for Community Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Lam Shuk-yee, SBS</td>
<td>President, Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Lau Ming-wai, BBS, JP</td>
<td>Chairman, Chinese Estates Holdings Limited/Vice Chairman, Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Law Chi-kwong, GBS, JP</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of Social Work and Social Administration, the University of Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Chairperson of the Community Care Fund Task Force)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon Leung Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP</td>
<td>Legislative Council Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Li Fung-ying, SBS, JP</td>
<td>Non-Executive Director, Zanwell Limited/Honorary President, United Labour Chi Hong Association Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Clarence Leung Wang-ching</td>
<td>Director, Sun Hing Knitting Factory Ltd./Chairman, Y. Elites Association Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon Michael Tien Puk-sun, BBS, JP</td>
<td>Legislative Council Member/Chairman, G2000 (Apparel) Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Francis Lui Ting-ming</td>
<td>Professor of Economics and Director of the Centre for Economic Development, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Yvonne Sin</td>
<td>Chairman, Hong Kong Retirement Schemes Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr David Wong Yau-kar, BBS, JP</td>
<td>Chairman, Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ex-officio Members</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary for Home Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary for Labour and Welfare</td>
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<td>Secretary for Education</td>
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<td>Secretary for Food and Health</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vice-chairpersons of the Task Forces</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Bunny Chan Chung-bun, GBS, JP (Vice-chairperson of the Community Care Fund Task Force)</td>
<td>Chairman, Prospectful Holdings Limited/ Chairman, Kwun Tong District Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Cheung Kin-fai, MH (Vice-chairperson of the Special Needs Groups Task Force)</td>
<td>Director, Joint Council for the Physically and Mentally Disabled Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Philemon Choi Yuen-wan, SBS, JP (Vice-chairperson of the Youth Education, Employment and Training Task Force)</td>
<td>Honorary General Secretary, Breakthrough Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Joseph Lee, GBS, JP (Vice-chairperson of the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund Task Force)</td>
<td>Group Chairman, Wofoo Plastics Limited</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Second-term Commission on Poverty

Terms of Reference

(1) Update the poverty line analysis on a yearly basis and refine its analytical framework as appropriate to review the poverty situation and the effectiveness of poverty alleviation measures in Hong Kong;

(2) Review existing policies and explore new measures and through the work of the Task Forces to achieve the objectives of preventing and alleviating poverty for facilitating the grass-roots (especially the younger generation) to move upwards along the social ladder, providing appropriate support to target groups with special needs, as well as plugging the gaps in the existing system and promoting social innovation to tackle poverty through the Community Care Fund and the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund;

(3) Explore options to enhance retirement protection to improve the situation of elderly poverty in light of the actual situation in Hong Kong on the basis of the study report on retirement protection conducted by Professor Nelson Chow and his team;

(4) Keep track of the feasibility study on establishing a central benefits service in Hong Kong and advise on future directions having regard to the results of the feasibility study; and

(5) promote cross-sector collaboration in poverty alleviation work and engage other government advisory committees on poverty alleviation work.
Second-term Community Care Fund Task Force

Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chairperson</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Vice-chairperson</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Dr Bunny Chan Chung-bun, GBS, JP</td>
<td>Chairman, Prospectful Holdings Limited/ Chairman, Kwun Tong District Council</td>
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Members of the Commission on Poverty

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<td>Hon Michael Tien Puk-sun, BBS, JP</td>
<td>Legislative Council Member/ Chairman, G2000 (Apparel) Limited</td>
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Co-opted Members

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss Ophelia Chan Chiu-ling, BBS</td>
<td>Retired/ former Assistant Director of Social Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Occupational/ Professional Background</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Cheung Leong</td>
<td>Executive Director, Charities and Community, Hong Kong Jockey Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Chang Siu-wah</td>
<td>Director, the ABM Hong Kong Swatow Baptist Church Community Service Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Cheung Wai-lun, JP</td>
<td>Director (Cluster Services), Hospital Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Langton Cheung Yung-pong, MH</td>
<td>Principal, S.K.H. St. James’ Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Stanton Chu Wai-ki</td>
<td>Principal, S.K.H. Yuen Chen Maun Chen Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Saimond Ip</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer, OnePort Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Frederick Lai Wing-hoi, JP</td>
<td>Service Head, Youth and Community Service, Caritas - Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Sigmund Leung Sai-man, JP</td>
<td>President, Hong Kong Dental Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Donald Li Kwok-tung, SBS, JP</td>
<td>Director, Family Medical Practice Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Daryl Ng Win-kong</td>
<td>Executive Director, Sino Land Co. Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Nancy Tsang Lan-see, JP</td>
<td>Director, Heep Hong Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Grace Yu Ho-Wun</td>
<td>Executive Director and Head of Business Development, UBS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Yuen Pong-yiu</td>
<td>Principal, Tin Ka Ping Secondary School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ex-officio Members**

- Permanent Secretary for Education (or his representative) --
- Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Health) (or his representative) --
- Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (or his representative) --
Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (or his representative) --
Director of Home Affairs (or his representative) --
Director of Social Welfare (or his representative) --
Second-term Community Care Fund Task Force

Terms of Reference

(1) Advise the Commission on Poverty (CoP) on the Community Care Fund’s various strategies and arrangements (including investment, finance and administrative operations), as well as the formulation of assistance programmes (including target beneficiaries, assistance amounts, handling of cross-sectoral issues and setting priorities);

(2) Co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of assistance programmes and review their effectiveness, as well as advising the CoP on the incorporation of programmes into the Government’s regular assistance programme and service;

(3) Maintain close liaison with and provide mutual support to other Task Forces under the CoP, and report to the CoP on its workplans and progress as and when appropriate; and

(4) Collaborate with the CoP and its other Task Forces to prepare for the annual CoP Summit for reporting the work progress of the CoP and engaging the public and various sectors in the community to take forward poverty alleviation work.
### Assistance Programmes under the Community Care Fund (CCF)

#### (A) Assistance programmes in progress/ to be rolled out soon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
<th>Implementation date</th>
<th>Funding provision ($ million)</th>
<th>Major eligibility criteria</th>
<th>Beneficiary statistics (as at 30 November 2014)</th>
<th>Disbursements ($ million) (as at 30 November 2014)</th>
<th>Progress and evaluation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Subsidy for patients of Hospital Authority (HA) for specified self-financed cancer drugs which have not yet been brought into the Samaritan Fund (SF) safety net but have been rapidly accumulating medical scientific evidence and with relatively higher</td>
<td>August 2011 (current funding provision for four years)</td>
<td>348.73&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>● The prevailing SF financial assessment mechanism and its sliding scale are adopted as the financial assessment criteria.</td>
<td>3,506 person-times&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Around 274.47&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>The programme initially covered six specified self-financed cancer drugs and was expanded to nine subsequently. The evaluation results were reported to the former Steering Committee on the CCF in May 2012.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<sup>1</sup> Including the administrative and audit expenses of this programme and programme (B)(1) below.

<sup>2</sup> This refers to the applications/subsidy for drug costs approved for beneficiaries as at 30 November 2014.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
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<tr>
<td>(To subsidise the drug costs borne by patient beneficiaries for the relevant drug treatment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2) Subsidy for the severely disabled persons aged below 60 who are non-CSSA (Comprehensive Social Security Assistance) recipients, requiring constant attendance and living in the community</td>
<td>September 2011 (extension of implementation in November 2012, November 2013 and November 2014 respectively)</td>
<td>179.35</td>
<td>● Aged below 60, living in the community and receiving Higher Disability Allowance (HDA) under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme as at 31 July 2014; and ● household income not exceeding 150% of the corresponding Median Monthly Domestic Household Income.</td>
<td>4,950 person-times</td>
<td>Around 109.93</td>
<td>All patients whose applications were approved in the first year of operation (i.e. from August 2011 to July 2012) have completed treatment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) The evaluation results were reported to the Commission on Poverty (CoP) in May 2013.
The CoP approved in November 2014 to extend again the implementation of the programme to provide a maximum of 12 months of subsidy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
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<td>in “full grant” ($2,000 per month); “three-quarters grant” ($1,500 per month) or “half grant” ($1,000 per month)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) Subsidy for elders aged 65 or above from low-income families who are on the waiting list for Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) (Ordinary Cases) for household cleaning service and escorting services for medical consultations (A monthly subsidy of not more than $560)</td>
<td>October 2011 (extension of implementation in December 2012)</td>
<td>15.256</td>
<td>● Aged 65 or above; living in the community; and have been on the waiting list for IHCS (Ordinary Cases) on or before 31 October 2012; and ● household income not exceeding 75% of the corresponding Median Monthly Domestic Household Income.</td>
<td>1 341 persons</td>
<td>Around 9</td>
<td>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013. Existing elderly beneficiaries of the programme who are still on the waiting list for IHCS (Ordinary Cases) could have their subsidy period extended in April 2014 from 31 March 2014 to 31 December 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
<td>Funding provision ($ million)</td>
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<td>Beneficiary statistics (as at 30 November 2014)</td>
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<td>Progress and evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4) Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing and paying a rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme</td>
<td>The programme was first launched in October 2011</td>
<td>33.671</td>
<td>• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2011.</td>
<td>22 605 households</td>
<td>32.085</td>
<td>First launch of the programme completed in 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(When the programme was first launched: a subsidy of $1,000 for one-person household; and $2,000 for two-or-more-person household)</td>
<td>The programme was launched for the second time in September 2013</td>
<td>56.81</td>
<td>• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2013.</td>
<td>17 771 households</td>
<td>Around 51.31</td>
<td>Second launch of the programme completed in September 2014. The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in August 2014 which approved to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
<td>Funding provision ($ million)</td>
<td>Major eligibility criteria</td>
<td>Beneficiary statistics (as at 30 November 2014)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(When the programme was launched for the third time: a subsidy of $2,000 for one-person household; and $4,000 for two-or-more-person household)</td>
<td>The programme was launched for the third time in September 2014</td>
<td>49.27</td>
<td>• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2014.</td>
<td>3 060 households</td>
<td>Around 8.03</td>
<td>re-launch the programme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Relocation allowance for eligible residents of sub-divided units in industrial buildings who have to move out as a result of the Buildings Department (BD)’s enforcement action</td>
<td>December 2011</td>
<td>4.43</td>
<td>• Persons who have passed the family/household- based means-test establishing eligibility for CSSA Scheme, student financial assistance schemes, HA Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism or Work Incentive</td>
<td>141 households (205 persons)</td>
<td>Around 0.39</td>
<td>BD has inspected 60 target industrial buildings, and has so far identified cases of unauthorised sub-divided units for domestic use in 12 of them. BD has taken enforcement action against these cases and enforcement action was completed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2,500 for one-person household, $5,500 for two-to-three-person household; and $7,100 for four-or-more-person household)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Transport Subsidy; or household income not exceeding 100% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income for one-person households; and not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income for two-or-more-person households.</td>
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<td>in four buildings. BD will continue to follow up the enforcement actions in other industrial buildings. Evaluation is being planned and the progress will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) After-school care pilot scheme (The subsidy cap for each project is $500,000)</td>
<td>September 2012 (a three-school year programme)</td>
<td>108.75</td>
<td>Primary one to Secondary three students receiving CSSA or Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA) full grant (expanded to cover Primary one to</td>
<td>30 207 person-times</td>
<td>Around 60.75</td>
<td>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in March 2014 which approved to extend the implementation of the scheme to the 2014/15 school year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
<td>Funding provision ($ million)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7) Elderly dental assistance programme</td>
<td>September 2012</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>• Aged 60 or above; • not receiving CSSA; and</td>
<td>1 093 persons</td>
<td>Around 7.76</td>
<td>1 353 eligible elders have been referred to receive the dental care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(A maximum subsidy of $13,140 for dental services for each beneficiary (including $8,800 for dentures, $4,285 for denture-related dental care and $55 for registration and dental check-up), a referral fee of $50 for each referral by NGOs, and an accompanying service fee of $70 per hour based on the actual duration of accompanying service provided (if applicable))</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• users of the IHCS or “Enhanced Home and Community Care Services” or “Home Help Service” subvented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) as at 31 December 2013 and are paying level 1 or level 2 fee charge of the above services.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>services under the programme.</td>
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</table>

The interim evaluation results were reported to the CoP in September 2013.

The CCF Task Force has set up a working group to consider expanding the target beneficiaries to persons who have financial difficulties and do not receive CSSA, for example, elderly persons who are Old Age Living Allowance recipients, taking into account the progress of implementation and the experience gained.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
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<th>Funding provision ($ million)</th>
<th>Major eligibility criteria</th>
<th>Beneficiary statistics (as at 30 November 2014)</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(8) Subsidy for owners’ corporations of old buildings</td>
<td>October 2012 (a three-year programme)</td>
<td>67.2</td>
<td>● Residential or composite buildings aged 30 years or above; and ● average rateable value of the residential units does not exceed $120,000 for urban area and $92,000 for New Territories.</td>
<td>1 238 owners’ corporations</td>
<td>Around 7</td>
<td>Among the 4 500 eligible owners’ corporations, about 2 900 have indicated their intention to make an application. The progress of evaluation will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9) Extra travel subsidy for needy special school students</td>
<td>October 2013 (a two-school year programme)</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>● Needy special school students from Primary one to Secondary six who are physically disabled, visually impaired, hearing impaired, mildly, moderately or severely intellectually disabled, and are</td>
<td>3 115 persons</td>
<td>Around 3.03</td>
<td>As at 30 November 2014, subsidy was disbursed to all 3 115 primary and secondary students receiving grant of STS from SFAA. Evaluation is being planned and the evaluation results will be reported to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
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<td>disbursed by SFAA)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>receiving full grant or half grant of STS from SFAA.</td>
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<td>the CCF Task Force in future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10) One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA</td>
<td>The programme was first launched in December 2013</td>
<td>638.33</td>
<td>Persons renting on a monthly basis private permanent housing, industrial buildings or commercial buildings; persons renting bedspaces offered under the Home Affairs Department (HAD)’s Singleton Hostel Programme; persons residing in temporary housing; homeless persons; or persons residing in vessels; household income and rent not exceeding the</td>
<td>52 128 households (126 173 persons)</td>
<td>Around 384.63</td>
<td>As at 30 November 2014, the CCF Secretariat has received around 21 740 replies from the old application households confirming their eligibility and 31 250 new applications. The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in August 2014 which approved to re-launch the programme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(When the programme was first launched: A subsidy of $3,500 for one-person household; $7,000 for two-person household; and $10,000 for three-or-more-person household)</td>
<td>The programme will be re-launched in</td>
<td>46.812</td>
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<td>(When the programme is re-launched: A subsidy of $4,000 for)</td>
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</table>
| one-person household; $8,000 for two-person household; $11,000 for three-person household; and $13,000 for four-or-more-person household | January 2015 | specified limits;  
* not receiving CSSA; and  
* not owning any property in Hong Kong. | (53 140 households (126 103 persons) are expected) | | | |

(11) Incentive scheme to further encourage CSSA recipients of the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance (IEAPS) to secure employment | April 2014 (a three-year programme) | 226.62 | Able-bodied CSSA recipients of the IEAPS. | 2 050³ persons | Around 4.44 | The second meeting of the working group set up under the CCF Task Force was held on 22 May 2014 to follow up the implementation progress of the scheme and its evaluation study. |

(12) Pilot scheme on living allowance | June 2014 (a two-year pilot) | 126 | Carer of the elderly person should meet | 375 carers | Around 3.56 | SWD has authorised 33 NGOs that |}

³ This is the number of able-bodied CSSA recipients randomly selected from the IEAPS cases who agree to participate in the incentive scheme, which is also the target number of beneficiaries of the incentive scheme.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
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<th>Major eligibility criteria</th>
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<th>Progress and evaluation</th>
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</table>
| for carers of the elderly persons from low income families | scheme | the following eligibility criteria:  
• the elderly person(s) being taken care of should be living in Hong Kong and assessed by Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services to have impairment at moderate or severe level, and has/have been on the Central Waiting List (CWL) for subsidised long term care services on or before 31 December 2013;  
• the elderly person(s) being | | | | operate District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs) and/or Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs) as approved service providers\(^4\) to assist in providing support services to the carers under the pilot scheme.  
The result of the evaluation study will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future. |

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\(^4\) 125 DECCs and NECs in total across the territory.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
<th>Implementation date</th>
<th>Funding provision ($ million)</th>
<th>Major eligibility criteria</th>
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<td>taken care of is/are not using any residential care services during the period of application and throughout their participation in the pilot scheme; ● be capable of taking up the care-giving role, and is required to provide at least 80 hours of care-giving work per month (or not less than 120 hours per month for taking care of more than one elderly person, and the second elderly person concerned should have been on the CWL for</td>
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<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
<td>Funding provision ($ million)</td>
<td>Major eligibility criteria</td>
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<td>subsidised long term care services since the date of the roll-out of the pilot scheme); • be a Hong Kong resident not engaging in any form of employment relationship with the elderly person(s) of whom he/she is taking care of; • not receiving CSSA or Old Age Living Allowance; and • monthly household income not exceeding 75% of the corresponding Median Monthly Domestic Household Income.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
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<td>Major eligibility criteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>(13) Providing hostel subsidy for needy undergraduate students</td>
<td>2014/15 school year (a three-school year programme)</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>● Full-time undergraduates of public-funded or self-financing locally-accredited programmes at degree level; ● passed the means test of the Tertiary Student Finance Scheme – Publicly-funded Programmes (TSFS) or the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students (FASP); ● resided in student hostels provided by their institutions; and ● confirmed by their institutions to have resided in student hostels in the</td>
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<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
<td>Funding provision ($ million)</td>
<td>Major eligibility criteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>(14) Increasing the academic expenses grant under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students</td>
<td>2014/15 school year (a three-school year programme)</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>● Full-time students pursuing locally-accredited self-financing programmes at sub-degree or degree level; and ● eligible students of FASP who have passed the means test of SFAA.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Assistance programmes regularised/completed

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<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
<th>Implementation date</th>
<th>Funding provision ($ million)</th>
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<th>Progress and evaluation</th>
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</table>
| (1) Subsidy for needy patients of HA who marginally fall outside the SF safety net for the use of SF subsidised drugs  
(To subsidise the drug costs borne by patient beneficiaries for the relevant drug treatment) | January 2012 | 4.278 | ● The prevailing SF financial assessment mechanism was adopted by applying a more relaxed patient contribution ratio than that for the SF i.e. the patient’s maximum contribution ratio is 20%. | 280 person-times | 4.278<sup>6</sup> | The programme has been incorporated into the regular mechanism of the SF with effect from 1 September 2012. |
| (2) Financial assistance for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland for taking language-related | September 2011 (a two-year programme) | 0.502 | ● Passed the family/household-based means-test establishing eligibility for CSSA Scheme, student financial assistance | 428 persons | 0.452 | The programme has been incorporated into HAD’s regular support services with effect from 26 September 2013. |

<sup>5</sup> The programme ceased operation on 31 August 2012, and this is the actual figure of the beneficiary statistics (the number of beneficiaries has been adjusted as a result of a subsidy recovery case in September 2014).

<sup>6</sup> The programme ceased operation on 31 August 2012, and this is the actual expenditure of the programme (the amount of disbursement has been adjusted as a result of the recovery of around $15,000 in September 2014).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
<th>Implementation date</th>
<th>Funding provision ($ million)</th>
<th>Major eligibility criteria</th>
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<th>Disbursements ($ million) (as at 30 November 2014)</th>
<th>Progress and evaluation</th>
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<tr>
<td>international public examinations (Reimbursement of relevant examination fees to beneficiaries on an accountable basis)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>schemes or HA Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism; or ● household income below 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The processing of all applications received under the programme has been completed. The total expenditure of the programme is $0.502 million, including $0.452 million for disbursement of subsidy and $0.05 million for administrative expenses (mainly for the one-off expenses on the production of posters, leaflets and application forms).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Subsidy for non-school-attending ethnic</td>
<td>March 2012</td>
<td>0.128</td>
<td>● Passed the family/household-based means-test</td>
<td>171 persons</td>
<td>0.061</td>
<td>The programme has been incorporated into HAD’s regular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
<td>Funding provision ($ million)</td>
<td>Major eligibility criteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland participating in language courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>establishing eligibility for CSSA Scheme, student financial assistance schemes or HA Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism; or household income below 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>support service with effect from 26 September 2013. The processing of all applications received under the programme had been completed. The total expenditure of the programme is $0.128 million, including $0.061 million for disbursement of subsidy and $0.067 million for administrative expenses (mainly for the one-off expenses on the production of posters, leaflets and application forms).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4) Subsidy for CSSA recipients who are owners of Tenants Purchase Scheme flats for five years or above and not eligible for rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme (A subsidy of $2,000 per household)</td>
<td>September 2011 (a one-off subsidy programme)</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>• CSSA households meeting the relevant criteria as at 1 July 2011.</td>
<td>825 households</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>The programme has been incorporated into the Government’s regular assistance programme with effect from 1 April 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Subsidy for low-income elderly tenants in private housing (A subsidy of $4,000 for one-person elderly household; $8,000 for two-person elderly household; and $12,000 for three-or-more-person elderly household)</td>
<td>July 2012 (A one-off subsidy programme with the application period closed on 31 January 2013)</td>
<td>11.24</td>
<td>• Elderly households aged 65 or above; • not receiving CSSA; • household income and rent not exceeding the specified limits; and • not owning any property in Hong Kong.</td>
<td>2 094 households (2 597 persons)</td>
<td>Around 10.39</td>
<td>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
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<td>Major eligibility criteria</td>
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| (6) Subsidy for low-income persons who are inadequately housed (A subsidy of $3,000 for one-person household; $6,000 for two-person household; and $8,000 for three-or-more-person household) | October 2012 (a one-off subsidy programme with the application period closed on 8 April 2013) | 174.43 | • Persons renting on a monthly basis rooms/cubicles, cocklofts or bedspaces in private permanent housing; persons renting bedspaces offered under HAD’s Singleton Hostel Programme; persons residing in temporary housing; or homeless persons;  
• household income and rent not exceeding the specified limits;  
• not receiving CSSA; and  
• not owning any property in Hong Kong. | 25 764 households (59 010 persons) | Around 150.18 | The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
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<tr>
<td>(7) Setting up the School-based Fund (Cross-boundary Learning Activities) to subsidise primary and secondary school students from low-income families to participate in cross boundary learning activities and competitions</td>
<td>July 2011 (a three-year programme)</td>
<td>194.66</td>
<td>● Students receiving full or half grant from the SFAA; ● students receiving CSSA; or ● students meeting the “financially needy” criteria as determined by individual schools.</td>
<td>62 628 persons</td>
<td>Around 143.28</td>
<td>The programme was initially set up to subsidise eligible students to participate in cross-boundary learning activities. The scope of the programme was expanded in July 2012 to subsidise eligible students to represent Hong Kong to take part in cross-boundary competitions. The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in March 2014 which approved to suspend the programme after completion in 2013-14. Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</td>
<td>Implementation date</td>
<td>Funding provision ($ million)</td>
<td>Major eligibility criteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>(8) Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at whole-day primary schools for students from low-income families</td>
<td>September 2011 (a three-school year programme)</td>
<td>494.65</td>
<td>• Whole-day primary school students receiving full grant from SFAA and having lunch as arranged by their schools.</td>
<td>178 076 person-times&lt;sup&gt;7&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Around 431.99</td>
<td>can apply for funding to conduct cross-boundary learning activities through the Quality Education Fund mechanism.</td>
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<sup>7</sup> Including 56 387, 60 386 and 61 303 beneficiaries in the school years of 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 respectively (for the 2013/14 school year, 61 303 is an estimated number of beneficiaries based on the information as at 30 November 2014 provided by schools).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(9) Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme (STAS) (An additional grant of $1,000 or $500, depending on the conditions)</td>
<td>October 2013 (a one-school year programme)</td>
<td>292.47</td>
<td>● Primary and secondary students receiving full and half grant under the STAS (an additional grant of $1,000 and $500 respectively for each student); and ● primary and secondary students on CSSA (an additional grant of $1,000 for each student)</td>
<td>312 408 persons (including 235 310 students meeting the eligibility criteria for the STAS under SFAA and 77 098 students on CSSA)</td>
<td>Around 263.14 (including around $186.11 million disbursed by SFAA and around $77.03 million disbursed by SWD)</td>
<td>As at 30 November 2014, subsidy has been disbursed to 312 408 primary and secondary students who are receiving grant under the STAS or on CSSA. The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in June 2014. The programme has been incorporated into the Government’s regular assistance programme with effect from 1 September 2014.</td>
</tr>
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<td>(10) Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level (Including the “Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme” and the “Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant”)</td>
<td>October 2013 (a one-school year programme)</td>
<td>64.89</td>
<td>● Target beneficiaries of the “Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme” are students enrolling in eligible courses below sub-degree level; ● target beneficiaries of the “Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant” are students enrolling in eligible courses with duration of one year or above; the grant amount will be on par with the enhanced flat-rate grant receivable by eligible primary and secondary students after enhancement (i.e. $2,094 and Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme: 2 771 persons Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant: 4 525 persons (including 2 819 Vocational Training Council (VTC) students and 1 706 Yi Jin Diploma students) Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme: Around 42.91 Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant: Around 7.58 (including $4.65 million for VTC students and $2.93 million for Yi Jin Diploma students)</td>
<td>Disbursement of subsidy by VTC is in progress. As at 30 November 2014, flat-rate academic expense grant was disbursed to all 1 706 Yi Jin Diploma students who passed the means test of SFAA. The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in June 2014. The programme has been incorporated into the</td>
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<td>(11) Training subsidy for children from low-income families who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services (A monthly subsidy of not more than $2,615)</td>
<td>December 2011 (extension of implementation in November 2012, July 2013 and February 2014 respectively)</td>
<td>68.145</td>
<td>● On the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services on or before 31 January 2014; and ● household income not exceeding 75% of the corresponding Median Monthly Domestic Household Income.</td>
<td>2 840 persons</td>
<td>Around 57.8</td>
<td>The evaluation results were reported to the former Steering Committee on the CCF in May 2012. The programme has been incorporated into the Government’s regular assistance programme with effect from 1 October 2014.</td>
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<td>(12) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities</td>
<td>January 2013 (extension of implementation)</td>
<td>9.68</td>
<td>● Renting respiratory support medical equipment without</td>
<td>258 persons</td>
<td>Around 5.48</td>
<td>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP</td>
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<td>for renting respiratory support medical equipment (According to the monthly household income and annual household disposable financial resources, the subsidy is disbursed in “full grant” ($2,500 or $2,000 per month); “three-quarters grant” ($1,875 or $1,500 per month) or “half grant” ($1,250 or $1,000 per month))</td>
<td>in September 2013 and May 2014 respectively</td>
<td>any relevant assistance, at the same time living in the community and receiving HDA under the SSA Scheme; and $1,250 or $1,000 per month) or “half grant” ($1,250 or $1,000 per month))</td>
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<td>in March 2014. The programme has been incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programme with effect from 1 November 2014.</td>
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<td>(13) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for purchasing medical consumables related to respiratory</td>
<td>September 2013 (extension of implementation in May 2014)</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>• Using respiratory support medical equipment without receiving any relevant subsidy to purchase related medical</td>
<td>173 persons</td>
<td>Around 1.42</td>
<td>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in March 2014. The programme has been incorporated</td>
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<td>support medical equipment</td>
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<td>consumables, at the same time living in the community and receiving HDA under the SSA Scheme; and household income not exceeding 150% of the corresponding Median Monthly Domestic Household Income and the annual household disposable financial resources not exceeding $180,000.</td>
<td>into the Government’s regular assistance programme with effect from 1 November 2014.</td>
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