

Panel on Welfare Services

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 3 February 2015)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
<p>1. Assistance to elderly not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA")</p>	<p>8 June 2006</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <p>(a) provide a paper setting out the relevant figures to substantiate its saying that a pay-as-you-go retirement protection scheme was not feasible; and</p> <p>(b) consult employees in Hong Kong on whether they were willing to allocate part of their Mandatory Provident Fund contributions, say 50%, to a pool for distribution to the current cohort of elders, on the understanding that they too would receive a monthly sum of some \$2,500 in their old age.</p>	<p>The Administration has launched a new Old Age Living Allowance in April 2013 as an additional form of financial assistance for Hong Kong elderly persons aged 65 or above who have insufficient means for a living and are in need of support.</p> <p>The Commission on Poverty will discuss in detail the study report on retirement protection in Hong Kong submitted by the consultancy team with Prof Nelson CHOW Wing-sun of The University of Hong Kong as the chief consultant.</p>

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2. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2013 Policy Address	21 January 2013	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on, among others, –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the supply and demand for residential care services and community care services including day care services and home-based care services in the next five years;(b) steps to be taken by the Administration to address the problem of inter-generational poverty;(c) a list of social welfare problems existing in the community in the absence of social welfare planning since mid-1990s;(d) in respect of releasing the labour force of women who could not go to work because they had to take care of their families, whether the Administration would consider extending the service hour of after-school learning support to 7 pm or 8 pm; and(e) the outcome of the Administration's discussion with the welfare sector on measures to meet the sector's demand for front-line care staff.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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3. Planning and inadequate provision of rehabilitation services for pre-school children	10 June 2013	The Administration was requested to provide information on the number of staff required for working and staff shortfall in each category of the rehabilitation sector as well as the lead time for training the relevant staff.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
4. Medium and long-term social welfare planning	8 July 2013	The Administration was requested to provide information on the needs for the elderly and rehabilitation services in the next five years.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
5. Ways to improve situation of refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers ("protection claimants") in Hong Kong	22 July 2013	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of minor claimants who had been denied access to schooling during their stay in Hong Kong; (b) the average processing time for determination of a claim lodged by a protection claimant and whether it could be shortened; and (c) a detailed breakdown of the expenditure, including the administration fee, for provision of humanitarian assistance to protection claimants through the International Social Service Hong Kong Branch, which amounted to \$203 million in 2012-2013. 	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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	13 January 2014	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <p>(a) the number of convicted cases concerning unlawful employment which involved protection claimants; and</p> <p>(b) the practice of neighbouring countries, including Singapore, regarding the provision of assistance to protection claimants.</p>	
6. Shortage of supporting staff (including Programme Workers) in the social welfare sector	13 January 2014	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <p>(a) the number of youth population and the number of Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres by district from 2014 to 2021; and</p> <p>(b) staff establishment of the non-governmental organizations operating under the Lump Sum Grant ("LSG") Subvention System.</p>	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
7. Pilot scheme on community care service voucher for the elderly ("the Pilot Scheme")	13 January 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on the reasons for the non-participation of eligible elderly persons in the Pilot Scheme.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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	10 November 2014	<p>The Administration was requested to provide –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the interim report of the evaluation study conducted by the Sau Po Centre on Ageing of the University of Hong Kong on the first phase of the Pilot Scheme before June 2015;(b) information on the number of vouchers received by each recognized service provider ("RSP"); and(c) in relation to the 184 participants who had withdrawn from the Pilot Scheme for reason of "no suitable services providers/service packages", information on –<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) the types of services required by these participants;(ii) whether there were RSPs in the districts where these participants were residing; and if so, whether the RSPs concerned were able to provide the services required by these participants; and(iii) whether lack of service quota was a reason for withdrawal of these participants.	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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<p>8. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2014 Policy Address</p>	<p>23 January 2014</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide a paper on its measures to unleash the women workforce with details on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) justifications for setting the upper age limit of children eligible for the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project; and (b) whether it had any plans to reserve space for the provision of child care services in the vicinity of newly built residential care homes for the elderly to encourage women to join the workforce of elderly care services. 	<p>The Administration will provide its response in due course.</p>
<p>9. Programmes and initiatives relating to the purview of the Panel on Welfare Services set out in the 2014-2015 Budget</p>	<p>10 March 2014</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the unit cost of the Pilot Scheme on Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities ("HCS") and the unit cost after the Pilot Scheme had been regularized; and (b) the implementation of and the assessment tool for the regularized HCS Scheme. 	<p>The Administration will provide its response in due course.</p>

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<p>10. Setting up a new contract residential care home for the elderly ("RCHE") cum day care unit ("DCU") in a public rental housing development at ex-Kwai Chung Police Married Quarters site, Kwai Chung</p>	<p>14 April 2014</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide quarterly progress report on the in-situ expansion, redevelopment or development projects under the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses.</p>	<p>The Administration will provide its response in due course.</p>
<p>11. Support for elderly persons who are in need of dental care</p>	<p>30 June 2014</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide the reasons for not being able to set up government dental clinics in all the 18 districts; (b) provide the report of the strategic review on health care manpower planning and professional development in Hong Kong; and (c) revert to the Panel regarding the suggestion of soliciting help from private dentists to provide dental services for the needy elderly at elderly health centres and government dental clinics outside the normal opening hours. 	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>

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12. Services and policies relating to family support	30 June 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on the Lam Tin incident happened in early May 2014 and on the Police's review of the handling of the aforesaid incident.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.
13. Extending the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities to Green Minibuses ("the Scheme")	10 November 2014	The Administration was requested to provide information on – (a) the number of beneficiaries of the Scheme taking long-haul buses for short trips; (b) the green minibus ("GMB") routes which were covered by the Scheme; and (c) the public transportation serving the 83 GMB routes which were not covered by the Scheme.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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<p>14. Setting up a new contract RCHE with DCU at Welfare Block of Shek Mun Estate Phase II public rental housing ("PRH") development, Shatin</p>	<p>8 December 2014</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of subsidized residential care places to be provided in PRH units in the coming five years; (b) which of the seven new contract RCHEs/RCHEs with DCUs commencing service from 2014-2015 to 2016-2017 would be located on the ground floor of PRH domestic blocks; and (c) a list of the vacant or idle space/premises in PRH estates, Home Ownership Scheme courts and Food and Environmental Hygiene Department public markets. 	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>
<p>15. Updated progress of Child Development Fund ("CDF")</p>	<p>12 January 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the ratio of CDF's target participants to the number of children in poverty; (b) detailed information on the training programmes and activities organized by non-governmental organizations and schools operating CDF projects; and (c) the report of the longitudinal study on the first batch of CDF projects conducted by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. 	<p>The bilingual report of consultancy study on CDF pioneer projects was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)746/14-15 on 29 January 2015. The Administration will provide the other required information in due course.</p>

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16. Progress on the implementation of HCS	12 January 2015	The Administration was requested to provide – (a) information on the number of users receiving services from each of the six HCS operators when the regularized HCS Scheme had been implemented for one year; and (b) a paper on the Administration's review of home and community care services for persons with disabilities.	The Administration will provide the required information in due course.

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<p>17. Briefings by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2015 Policy Address</p>	<p>26 January 2015</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide information on –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a breakdown of the usage rate of Extended Hours Service ("EHS") provided by aided child care centres and kindergarten-cum-child care centres, and by districts; (b) the amount incurred in providing 1 200 EHS places at aided child care centres and kindergarten-cum-child care centres; (c) the number of places to be provided under the On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services Pilot Scheme. The information should be provided to the Panel by April 2015; and (d) the number of elderly persons, broken down by age, who were aged between 70 and 79 and were eligible for the Elderly Dental Assistance ("EDA") Programme if the age limit for EDA Programme was lowered from 80 to 70. 	<p>The Administration will provide the required information in due course.</p>