

**Legislative Council
Subcommittee on Children's Rights**

Response to motions of the Meeting on 4 November 2017

Rehabilitation services for children above six years of age with special educational needs

Children in pre-primary education who have special needs should be provided with pre-school rehabilitation services as soon as possible. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) provides children from birth to six years old with disabilities or at risk of becoming disabled with early intervention to enhance their physical, psychological and social developments, so as to improve their opportunities for participating in ordinary schools and daily life activities, and help their families meet their special needs. At present, SWD provides children with special needs with a wide range of pre-school services, including Early Education and Training Centre, Integrated Programme in Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centre and Special Child Care Centre. In parallel, SWD launched the Pilot Scheme on On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services (which will be regularised from the 2018/19 school year) and provides training subsidy for eligible children on the waiting list of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services. Besides, SWD is working with the Education Bureau on ways to enhance support for children with special needs so that they will be provided with appropriate services when they proceed to primary education.

**Labour and Welfare Bureau
Social Welfare Department
December 2017**