

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

Response to motions of the Meeting on 4 November 2017

Low-income Working Family Allowance and Internet Learning Support Programme

The response of the Education Bureau

The Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address mentioned that the Government would invite the Community Care Fund to consider providing subsidy to needy primary and secondary students for purchasing tablet computers to facilitate the practice of mobile e-learning.

The response of the Labour and Welfare Bureau / Social Welfare Department

2. The policy objective of the Low-income Working Family Allowance (to be renamed as the Working Family Allowance on 1 April 2018) Scheme is to encourage self-reliance of low-income families through employment, with a focus on supporting families with children and youths to ease intergenerational poverty. Apart from providing a working hour-linked allowance for low-income families fulfilling the working hour requirements, a Child Allowance is especially provided for each eligible child or youth in the eligible family. As the policy objective of the Scheme is to encourage self-reliance of low-income families through employment, we have no plan to delink the Child Allowance with working hour requirements. The Government will continue to provide appropriate support for children according to their needs through various programmes.

The response of the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

3. Launched in the 2011/12 school year, the Internet Learning Support Programme ("ILSP") was intended to facilitate non profit-making organisations to develop a long-term operation model to continue the support on Internet learning for needy students. We understand that the two implementers, with accumulated experiences over the years, intend to continue providing Internet learning support services to students from low-income families after the ILSP ends in the 2017/18 school year. To support needy students in respect of

Internet learning at home, the Student Finance Office and the Social Welfare Department will continue to disburse the Subsidy for Internet Access Charges to eligible families. Moreover, the Government provides free Wi-Fi services at all 69 public libraries of Hong Kong to facilitate Internet learning by students outside schools.

Education Bureau

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Social Welfare Department

Office of the Government Chief Information Officer

December 2017