

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1657/16-17  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PS/1/16

**Panel on Welfare Services and Panel on Health Services**

**Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy**

**Minutes of the fourth meeting**  
**held on Tuesday, 28 March 2017, at 4:30 pm**  
**in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN  
Hon KWONG Chun-yu  
Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

**Members absent** : Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP  
Hon Alvin YEUNG

**Members attending** : Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin

**Public Officers attending** : Item I  
  
Miss Stella CHANG  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare  
(Welfare)3  
Labour and Welfare Bureau  
  
Mr Steve TSE  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare  
(Special Duties)  
Labour and Welfare Bureau

Ms PANG Kit-ling  
Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Elderly)  
Social Welfare Department

Ms Lilian CHEUNG  
Chief Social Work Officer (Elderly)1  
Social Welfare Department

Mr FONG Ngai  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health  
(Health)3  
Food and Health Bureau

Dr Linda YU  
Chief Manager (Integrated Care Programs)  
Hospital Authority

**Attendance by  
invitation** : Item I

Labour Party

Mr HO Wai-lun  
社區幹事

Christian Family Service Centre

Ms TONG Choi-ying  
Representative

DAB

Miss LAI Ka-man  
Deputy Spokesperson

The Civic Party

Mr LI Ka-ho  
Representative

Society for Community Organization

Mr NG Wai-tung  
Community Organizer

Elderly Carer Group

Miss TSANG Chung-man  
Researcher

Elderly Rights League (HK)

Mr TAM Chi-chang  
Member

Elderly Carer Concern Group

Ms HUEN Sau-lin  
Member

Elderly Primary Health Concern Group

Mr LIN Wai-kiu  
Community Organizer

Carer Concern Group

Ms WONG Kum  
Member

Elderly Community Care Concern Group

Ms YUEN Shuk-yan  
Community Organizer

Elderly Carer Right Concern Group

Mr LEE Woon-hong  
Member

Ms Marina CHAN Yuen-man

Concerning Home Care Service Alliance

Mr KWONG Wing-tai  
Member

Mrs ISHIGAMI Alice LEE Fung-king

Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association

Ms LEE Nga-yee  
Executive Director

Working Group on Dementia Care Service,  
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Ms Maggie SIU Wing  
Convenor

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Ms WONG Yuen-wa  
Officer (Elderly Service)

Charles K. Kao Foundation for Alzheimer's Disease

Mrs KAO GWEN May-wan  
Chairman

The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong

Mr FOO Wai-lok  
Principal Consultant (Elderly Services)

Miss CHEUNG Nga-lam

Mr Alan CHU Siu-lun

Mr Kevin LEUNG Shu-hang

Mr CHAN Lok-hang

Mr WONG Cho-ki

**Clerk in attendance** : Mr Colin CHUI  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

**Staff in attendance** : Ms Catherina YU  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 4

Miss Meisy KWOK  
Legislative Assistant (2) 6

Miss Cally LAI  
Legislative Assistant (2) 10

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Action

**I. Support for persons suffering from dementia and their family members**

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1066/16-17(01) to (06) and CB(2)1080/16-17(01) to (02)]

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

Motions

*Motion 1*

2. Dr LAU Siu-lai moved her first motion as follows:

現時全港有 11 萬名認知障礙症患者，並預計 2039 年將增至有 33 萬同類患者，惟政府至今未有專責部門制訂及處理認知障礙症患者及照顧者政策，就此，本委員會建議成立專責部門制訂並處理認知障礙症患者及照顧者政策。

(Translation)

There are currently 110 000 persons suffering from dementia in Hong Kong and the number of persons with dementia is estimated to increase to 330 000 by the year of 2039. However, so far the Government has not yet set up a dedicated department to formulate and handle the policies on persons suffering from dementia and their carers. In this connection, this Joint Subcommittee suggests that a dedicated department be set up to formulate and handle the policies on persons suffering from dementia and their carers.

3. The Chairman put the motion to vote. All members present voted in favour of the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

Action

*Motion 2*

4. Dr LAU Siu-lai moved her second motion as follows:

基於現時長者輪候認知障礙症診斷及治療的時間過長和現時診斷及治療患者及支援照顧者的人手不足的問題，就此，本委員會建議：

1. 當局應增撥經常性開支，以增加職業治療師、護士、社工、臨床心理學家的人手及培訓；
2. 增撥資源於各類社區照顧的資助服務，加強上門診斷、支援及治療認知障礙症患者的服務。

(Translation)

In view of the prolonged waiting time of elderly persons for diagnosis and treatment for dementia at present, as well as the current shortage of manpower for diagnosing and treating persons with dementia and providing support for their carers, this Joint Subcommittee suggests that:

1. additional recurrent funding be allocated to increase the manpower of and training for occupational therapists, nurses, social workers and clinical psychologists;
2. additional resources be allocated to various kinds of subsidized community care services and to strengthen home-based services for diagnosis, support and treatment for persons suffering from dementia.

5. The Chairman put the motion to vote. All members present voted in favour of the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

*Motion 3*

6. Dr LAU Siu-lai moved her third motion as follows:

基於現時政府當局對認知障礙症患者的照顧者支援極為不足，就此，本委員會建議：增加對認知障礙症患者的照顧者支援，如在各類社區照顧服務中增加人手及資源、提高照顧者津貼並不設經濟審查、提供照顧者心理支援及訓練、以及增設患者的暫託服務。

Action

(Translation)

In view of the gravely inadequate support from the Administration for the carers of persons suffering from dementia at present, this Joint Subcommittee suggests that:

support for the carers of persons suffering from dementia be enhanced, such as providing additional manpower and resources for various kinds of community care services, increasing non-means-tested allowance for carers, providing psychological support and training for carers, and providing additional respite services for persons with dementia.

7. The Chairman put the motion to vote. All members present voted in favour of the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

Admin

8. As requested by the Chairman, the Labour and Welfare Bureau, the Food and Health Bureau, the Social Welfare Department and the Hospital Authority undertook to provide a written response to the three carried motions as well as the questions raised and views expressed by deputations/individuals at the meeting.

**II. Any other business**

9. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6:50 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
16 June 2017

**Proceedings of the fourth meeting of the  
Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy  
on Tuesday, 28 March 2017, at 4:30 pm  
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s) / Discussion</b>	<b>Action required</b>
<i>Agenda item I – Support for persons suffering from dementia and their family members</i>			
000305 – 000747	Chairman	Opening remarks	
000748 – 001049	Labour Party	Presentation of views	
001050 – 001359	Christian Family Service Centre	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1066/16-17(03)]	
001400 – 001709	DAB	Presentation of views	
001710 – 002017	The Civic Party	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1130/16-17(01)]	
002018 – 002338	Society for Community Organization	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
002339 – 002602	Elderly Carer Group	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
002603 – 002906	Elderly Rights League (HK)	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
002907 – 003028	Elderly Carer Concern Group	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
003029 – 003337	Elderly Primary Health Concern Group	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
003338 – 003627	Carer Concern Group	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
003628 – 003955	Elderly Community Care Concern Group	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
003956 – 004250	Elderly Carer Right Concern Group	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1080/16-17(01)]	
004251 – 004643	Ms Marina CHAN Yuen-man	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1066/16-17(06)]	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s) / Discussion</b>	<b>Action required</b>
004644 – 004950	Concerning Home Care Service Alliance	Presentation of views	
004951 – 005308	Mrs ISHIGAMI Alice LEE Fung-king	Presentation of views	
005309 – 005625	Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1066/16-17(05)]	
005626 – 005939	Working Group on Dementia Care Service, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service	Presentation of views	
005940 – 010144	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service	Presentation of views	
010145 – 010453	Charles K. Kao Foundation for Alzheimer's Disease	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(2)1066/16-17(04)]	
010454 – 010819	The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong	Presentation of views	
010820 – 011207	Miss CHEUNG Nga-lam	Presentation of views	
011208 – 011525	Mr Alan CHU Siu-lun	Presentation of views	
011526 – 011757	Mr Kevin LEUNG Shu-hang	Presentation of views	
011758 – 012123	Mr CHAN Lok-hang	Presentation of views	
012124 – 012456	Mr WONG Cho-ki	Presentation of views	
012457 – 013730	Chairman Admin	<p>The Chairman summarized the major suggestion raised and views expressed by the deputations/individuals on the support for persons suffering from dementia and their family members as follows:</p> <p>(a) the Administration should set up in each district a dedicated care centre and enhance the provision of day care and respite services for persons with dementia. In addition, a</p>	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s) / Discussion</b>	<b>Action required</b>
		<p>subsidy should be provided for carers of persons with dementia ("the Carers") through a regularized programme in a more lenient manner;</p> <p>(b) support for patients with dementia who were aged below 65 was far from adequate;</p> <p>(c) the health condition of persons with dementia who had received time-limited training and support under the Dementia Community Support Scheme ("the DCS Scheme") might get worse if they did not receive continuous training and support afterwards; and</p> <p>(d) the use of the Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services ("SCNAMES") of the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") to assess the care needs of elderly persons with dementia was considered ineffective.</p> <p>The Administration advised that:</p> <p>(a) in addition to the services set out in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)1066/16-17(01)), the DCS Scheme would provide training for the existing staff of the 20 subvented district elderly community centres ("DECCs") so that members of DECCs with mild or moderate dementia could receive appropriate support at different stages. Besides, a provision was made for each DECC to, among others, arrange transportation for bringing their members to and from the centres under the DCS Scheme. Making reference to the evaluation on the DCS Scheme to be conducted by a university, the Administration would consider the feasibility of expanding the coverage of the services to benefit more elderly persons with dementia and the Carers. The Administration welcomed further views on the DCS Scheme, and undertook to take them into consideration when developing dementia community support services in the long run;</p> <p>(b) 18 recognized service providers under the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme on</p>	

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		<p>Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("the Pilot Scheme on CCSV") provided dedicated services for persons with dementia;</p> <p>(c) the review of SCNAMES was in progress. It was expected that the revised SCNAMES could better assess the impairment levels of elderly persons with dementia;</p> <p>(d) the Administration had provided additional resources for 210 elderly centres in recent years to strengthen the support for the Carers, and would discuss the problem of inadequate supply of respite services with the service providers concerned including service providers of the 173 new day care places expected to commence service in 2017-2018; and</p> <p>(e) currently, some 900 carers of elderly persons suffering from dementia were receiving a living allowance under the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families ("the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance"). The Administration planned to review the Pilot Scheme upon the completion of the Phase II in September 2018 and would take into account deputations' views in this regard.</p>	
013731 – 014209	Chairman Dr Helena WONG Hospital Authority ("HA")	<p>Dr Helena WONG declared that her mother had been suffering from dementia for over a decade. She urged the Administration to enhance the provision of day care services for persons with dementia in order to shorten the waiting time for the services and provide temporary relief for the Carers. In addition, HA should allocate more resources to allow doctors to spend more time with patients with dementia during consultations.</p> <p>In response to Dr WONG's question about the cost of medications for patients with dementia living in different districts, HA advised that the new anti-dementia drugs mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)1066/16-17(01)) were categorized as Special drugs in the Drug Formulary of HA. Special drugs were provided at standard fees and</p>	

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		charges in HA public hospitals and clinics when prescribed under specific clinical conditions. Patients who did not meet the specific clinical conditions but chose to use Special drugs were required to pay for these drugs.	
014210 – 014654	Chairman Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Admin	<p>Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung asked how the Administration would address the long-standing problem of inadequate supply of services and support for persons with dementia and the Carers. Noting many stakeholders' views on the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance, he urged the Administration to review the Scheme without further delay.</p> <p>The Administration advised that in spite of resource constraint, it had been striving for allocating more resources to enhance elderly services. Regarding the concern about the timetable for reviewing the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance, the Administration reiterated its reply to the deputations' views at (e) above (time marker: 012457 – 013730) and added that the Administration would review the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance and the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low-income Carers of Persons with Disabilities in one go.</p>	
014655– 015112	Chairman Deputy Chairman	Expressing concern about a growing number of people suffering from dementia arising from the ageing population and the hardship of the Carers, the Deputy Chairman urged the Administration to review the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance without further delay to alleviate the financial burden of the Carers.	
015113 – 015517	Chairman Dr LAU Siu-lai	<p>Dr LAU Siu-lai expressed dissatisfaction that the Administration was not willing to allocate more resources to address the care needs of the disadvantaged while a large amount of resources was allocated to infrastructural projects and other aspects which were in favour of large enterprises. She briefed members on the three motions to be moved by her later at the meeting (time marker: 020526 – 020736).</p> <p>At 6:28 pm, the Chairman extended the meeting for 15 minutes beyond the appointed ending time.</p>	

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015518 – 020056	Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Admin	<p>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung urged the Administration to set priority and secure adequate resources for addressing inadequacies in various services for persons with dementia and the Carers. The Administration advised that the Chief Executive announced in his 2017 Policy Address that the Administration would increase the funding for Dementia Supplement in the 2017-2018 financial year.</p> <p>The Chairman remarked that the Administration should have a comprehensive policy on persons with dementia and the Carers.</p>	
020057 – 020525	Chairman Mr KWONG Chun-yu Admin	<p>Mr KWONG Chun-yu was gravely concerned that the Administration did not provide adequate support and services to help the Carers alleviate their high degree of stress and financial hardship. He urged the Administration to review the policy on persons with dementia and the Carers without further delay, in particular the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance. He was of the view that to allow more Carers to benefit from the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance, the Administration should lower the threshold, increase the level of allowance, streamline the application procedures and regularize the Scheme.</p> <p>The Administration reiterated its reply to the deputations' views at (e) above (time marker: 012457 – 013730). Regarding the timetable for the review of the Pilot Scheme on Carer Allowance, the Administration undertook to give consideration to the concerns raised by members and deputations in this regard.</p>	
020526 – 020736	Chairman Dr LAU Siu-lai	Voting on the three motions moved by Dr LAU Siu-lai.	
020737 – 021632	Chairman Elderly Carer Right Concern Group Miss CHEUNG Nga-lam Mr WONG Cho-ki Mr NG Wai-tung Admin HA	At the invitation of the Chairman, some deputations/individuals gave further views on the problems of inadequate resources for the provision of services for persons with dementia and the Carers, high cost of services provided by self-financing day care centres, long waiting time for day care services and the absence of assessment of service demand. In response, the Administration advised that:	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s) / Discussion	Action required
		<p>(a) to address the demand for subsidized day care services, the Administration had been taking various measures, including setting up day care centres in new development areas, inviting the Community Care Fund to consider launching a new pilot scheme to provide 4 000 home care and support places for elderly persons with mild impairment and providing an additional 2 000 vouchers for the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme on CCSV in August 2017 to make a total of 5 000 vouchers for the Second Phase. It was expected that the implementation of the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme on CCSV would reduce the waiting time for day care services;</p> <p>(b) one of the recommendations made by the Expert Group on Dementia under the Review Committee on Mental Health ("the Review Committee") was conducting researches and studies to keep track of the number of persons with mental health needs on a regular basis. The Administration would give consideration in this regard; and</p> <p>(c) the around 28 000 patients with dementia mentioned in paragraph 3 of the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)1066/16-17(01)) only included those diagnosed with dementia under HA. HA would examine how to retrieve a more realistic number of patients with dementia who were receiving HA's services, e.g. by making reference to the number of patients prescribed with anti-dementia drugs under HA.</p>	
021633 – 022106	Chairman Admin	<p>The Chairman expressed concern that:</p> <p>(a) the Administration did not give a positive response to the call for support for persons with dementia who were aged below 65 and the Carers;</p> <p>(b) the Administration did not consider subsidizing the setting up of dedicated day care centres for persons with dementia, while the services provided by those operated under a self-financing mode might not be affordable for general families;</p>	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Subject(s) / Discussion</b>	<b>Action required</b>
		<p>(c) the Administration should formulate a comprehensive policy on persons with dementia and the Carers. However, it might not be appropriate to put relevant issues under the purview of the Food and Health Bureau ("FHB") given that most of the persons with dementia were residing in the community and required community care services; and</p> <p>(d) the recommendations to be made in the report of the Review Committee, which would be announced in the second quarter of 2017, might not be able to address the needs of persons with dementia and the Carers.</p> <p>The Chairman hoped that the Joint Subcommittee could revisit the subject later. As requested by the Chairman, the Labour and Welfare Bureau, FHB, SWD and HA undertook to provide a written response to the three carried motions as well as the questions raised and views expressed by deputations/individuals at the meeting.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b> (para. 8 in the minutes)</p>